

BAY AREA REPORTER

H A P P Y V A L E N T I N E ' S D A Y

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Reports, Meetings, Posters, Press Releases

Sex Practices Re-open AIDS War

by Paul Lorch

The success and failure of Gay men's sexual practices detonated into the news again this week. By press time most of the players had delivered a salvo and had retreated to their bunkers to cluck, carp, or complain they had been badly handled.

The first shot was fired by stories in Friday's dailies that the decline in anal gonorrhea rates had slowed. This to some in government, public health, and journalism was an ominous sign.

In one article Supervisor Harry Britt had harsh words for the bathhouses and sex clubs; he said, "Sexual activity in places like the baths should no longer be associated with pleasure — they should be associated with death." This line quoted in a *Chronicle* story on the efforts to close down the city's bathhouses plagued the supervisor over the weekend. He repeatedly had to deny he wanted to close down the baths.

Bathhouse owners were not convinced, and 20 members of the Northern California Baths Association hastily gathered Monday afternoon to plot their response. They met with the supervisor and later unanimously passed a formal resolution which they entitled "An Objec-

tive Response to AIDS." Their resolution attacked "uncaring and unscrupulous theocrats [who] have stooped to manipulating public fears about AIDS in order to serve their own private political goals of eliminating first the Gay baths, then the Gay bars, then all Gay businesses and organizations, and possibly the jobs of every Gay person." Sal Accardi, owner of San Jose's Watergarden, served as the group's spokesman. He told the *Bay Area Reporter* that his group resolved to "cooperate fully with legitimate scientific and humanitarian efforts to disseminate objective information about AIDS to our patrons."

However, stressed the angry bathhouse owners, "Our mem-

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Law Students Debate "Homosexual Panic" Defense

Gay Public Defenders Say It's Okay; Gay District Attorneys Deplore Its Abuse

by Duke J. Armstrong



PD's Ron Albers and Charles Stolpe and DA's Bref French at law students' debate on the "Homosexual Panic" defense. (Photo: Rink)

The "homosexual panic" defense was the topic of debate at a heated panel discussion held on Saturday at Golden Gate University. The well-attended session was part of a one-day conference on Lesbian and Gay legal issues. To many it was the day's high point. Ron Albers and Chuck Stolpe from the Public Defender's Office and Bref French, Deputy District Attorney, served as the three panelists for the discussion which was sponsored by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF), the Gay bar association. All three are themselves Gay attorneys professionally involved in the criminal justice system where the "panic" defense is used as an excuse for violent crime.

The "homosexual panic" defense arises when an accused admits to having killed or beaten a Gay person but pleads in mitigation of the crime that he did so in a panic which broke out after the victim attempted to engage him in homosexual acts.

As Lesbian Senior District Attorney Bref French pointed out, the defense is used in murder cases to show that the defendant acted in the heat of passion rather than with premeditation or malice aforethought, thereby reducing the crime from murder

to manslaughter. In some cases — even after admitting the killing — defendants have been pronounced not guilty. The tactic can also be used to plead self defense, that the defendant was in fear for his person as a result

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Mayor Dianne Feinstein accepts the Cable Car's Dorothy Langston Human Rights Award — awash in silver sequins. (Photo: Rink)

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SF Gays get a taste of Hayward PD abuse — John Wetzl p. 10

Stonewall likes the name of Jackson — Bruce Pettit p. 11

'Gay Games' It Will Be!

Permanent Injunction
Use of Word 'Olympics' is Still Out
Another Appeal Said to Be in the Works

by Paul Lorch

A federal judge has upheld the U.S. Olympic Committee's exclusive claim on the word "olympic" for the third time last week. On Thursday, February 2, U.S. District Judge John P. Vukasin issued a permanent injunction against Gay Games from using the word in their athletic promotions and future productions.

On news of the defeat, attorney for the Gay Games, Mary Dunlap said she would appeal the latest ruling. Last month writing in the Gay Games' first edition of its quarterly magazine, Dunlap claimed she was "vigorously opposing" the U.S. Olympics attorney's motion for a summary judgment in the case. This way they would avoid a trial in U.S. District Court.

She wrote that the USOC motion was "weak in fact and in law." However, she added the U.S. Olympic Committee was "very influential and powerful." Dunlap sought to bring the issue to a trial over the permanent injunction. Yet she failed to convince the federal judge that the issue should be handed to a jury. She argued that "somehow, the plain applicability of First

Amendment protections of free speech and association to our essentially noncommercial political and symbolic use of an ancient word, and the obvious discrimination against us, are motivated by homophobia and perhaps megalomania on the part of USOC." Judge Vukasin didn't buy it.

On August 9, 1982 — short of

(Continued on page 15)

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Mayor Cuts Ribbon

New Center Open for Polk St. Runaways

But Will Gay Youths be Hassled at Holy Redeemer Center?

"My parents, fundamentalist Christians, kicked me out when they found out I was Gay. I hitched to San Francisco. I'd been working Polk Street for a couple of months. I was doing okay, but then I got real sick . . ."

— Gary, 16 years old

by Dion B. Sanders

With the cutting of a lavender-colored ribbon, Mayor Feinstein formally opened last Thursday a new center designed to aid homeless and runaway youths — many of whom either left home or were thrown out by their families because they are Gay.



Public officials turn out for ribbon-cutting of Polk Street Youth Center: (l. to r.) Senator Milton Marks, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Shelter Director Tom Rinaldo, Toklas Demos' Greg Day, and Supervisor Louise Renne. (Photo: Rink)

Located a block from Polk Street — where many homeless youths hang out and often engage in prostitution and petty crime in order to survive — the new Larkin Street Youth Multi-service Center is one of three facilities aimed at providing effective and meaningful alternatives to prostitution in the Polk Street and Tenderloin areas of The City.

In addition to the Larkin Street center, there is a 20-bed youth shelter located in the heart of the Castro and a new central receiving facility at Huckleberry House in the Haight-Ashbury — an area of The City world-famous as a haven for an earlier generation of runaways: the hippies of the 1960s.

The Larkin Street center refers youths to these and other resource facilities. All three services were designed as an alternative to sending runaway youths to the Youth Guidance Center — in reality, the county juvenile jail — according to Paul Gibson, clerical supervisor for Youth Advocates, Inc., which operates Huckleberry House.

The centers are a publicly-financed cooperative project of Youth Advocates, Central City Hospitality House, Polk Street Town Hall, Catholic Social Services, and the Ursa Institute.

All five agencies are members of Youth Emergency Services (YES) a coalition of social and religious organizations, founded in December 1982 in response to the unmet needs of homeless youth.

"The test of a civilized society is how we treat the least among us," Feinstein said in a speech before more than 200 invited guests. "It's not enough to

be concerned with bricks and mortar, but you have to really care and respond to the hurt of people."

Archbishop John Quinn, head of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco, said that the new Diamond Street Youth Shelter "is a first step for troubled youth, where they can eat and sleep in safety and reflect on their situation in the company of people they can trust."

Catholic Social Services operates the shelter, located in the parish hall of Holy Redeemer Church at 18th and Diamond Streets.

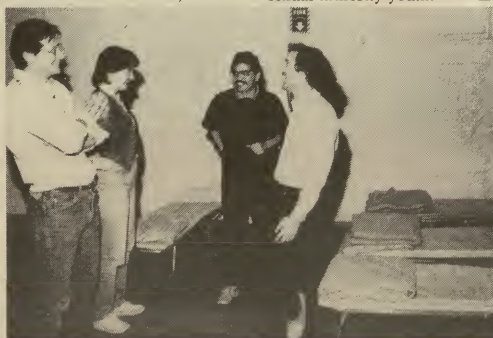
However, with the Archdiocese's position on homosexuality what it is, questions have been raised about whether Gay youths staying in the Diamond Street Shelter would receive counseling aimed at rejecting their Gay identity.

Shelter director Tom Rinaldo made it clear that CSS, not the

Holy Redeemer parish, operates the shelter. He pointed out that "we (CSS) have hired Gay staff, we have stressed the need for sensitivity to Gay issues in terms of working with the (youth) population at hand."

"We have a direct-service approach — it's an immediate-crisis center. We do not engage in long-term therapy and this is not a religious mission in terms of dealing with moral issues and such concerns for kids," Rinaldo continued. "The agency is there to provide services, not to proselytize."

Greg Day, political action chair of YES, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that, in fact, a request was made to the City's Probation Department, which granted the contract to Youth Advocates to operate the Larkin Street Center "that whoever it was (who received the contract) be able to provide services to all youth — including sensitive services to Lesbian, Gay, and other sexual minority youth." ■



The Diamond Street Shelter for Gay youth. (Photo: Rink)

State Demos Meet in Oakland

Gay Clout Grows in Party as Interest in CDC Wanes

by George Mendenhall

The continued growth of Gay Power within the state Democratic Party was evident at this week's annual party conclave at Oakland's Hyatt Regency hotel. Over 100 crowded into the meeting room allowed for the Gay Caucus — heated by temperature if not by controversy. Gay Democrats from San Diego, Los Angeles, Bakersfield — and everywhere in-between — promoted a Gay agenda and the appointment of Gays to high visibility posts. Victory came in the form of Burton aide Bill Kraus being appointed to the party's National Platform Committee.

AIDS, JOB RIGHTS

At the request of the Gay Caucus, the state platform committee unanimously amended its earlier statement in the party platform at the convention to include a broader demand for additional federal AIDS funding.

"The California Democratic Party," the adopted platform now reads, "deplores the Reagan administration's inadequate response to the AIDS health emergency and calls for immediate and substantial increase in all levels of government funding for AIDS research, patient care, and community education."

* * *

State Senator David Roberti, who is carrying Assemblyman Art Agnos' AB-1 bill to the Senate, made a brief caucus appearance to reiterate what Agnos said in last week's *Bay Area Reporter*. The senator pleaded, "Stick with us. Do not be discouraged if we postpone it again. The accomplishment is not to go with 19 votes but to go with 21 'sure' votes. It will be taken up at the right time. Please trust our judgment."

Roberti did reveal that he believes the "sure" total is at 18 votes with a possible four GOP

votes that "will surprise some Republicans when they learn who they are." He also announced that the vote could be taken next week on either Thursday or Friday (February 16 or 17) but "we do not want to give H.L. Richardson more than 48 hours notice."

In the reference to Richardson, Roberti was reiterating a claim by Agnos that the powerful Right-Wing legislator is influencing senators. Richardson is popular with religious conservatives who have flooded legislators with anti-AB-1 mail. He has called homosexuality an "abomination" and homosexuals "perverts" in his widely distributed newspaper column.

Some local activists, who do not wish to be quoted, have implied that the use of Richardson's name might be a ploy to divert attention from the inability of Roberti and Agnos to muster votes. Yet earlier in the Oakland convention, Assembly Speaker Willie Brown told a luncheon group, "Richardson controls the State Senate."

Roberti told the Gay Caucus, "Any delays are not due to a Machiavellian plot. We care about this bill because of what its passage will say about this legislature. We are short on pro-

gressive legislation. This is the most far-reaching civil rights legislation to come along in some time. We hope to pass it this year and make it the hallmark of our administration."

Governor George Deukmejian told a press conference last week that he would make no advance statement about his position on AB-1 and would decide what to do when it arrives on his desk. When asked by this reporter if this meant he might sign it, Roberti replied, "Remember, it was Assemblyman Deukmejian who once led the floor fight against Willie Brown's consensual sex bill. The governor has learned since then that there are also Gay Republicans. He will not sign the bill, but he might allow it to become law."

In its final action, the Gay Caucus unanimously opposed Senator John Glenn's candidacy for President and also urged, in a resolution, that he not be considered for the vice presidency. Glenn has stated that while he is in favor of civil liberties and social justice for Gay people, he opposes the national Gay rights legislation that would place Gay people within the protective clauses of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Emphasizing that

Glenn "is not for human rights," the resolution called on the national party not to even consider him on the convention floor.

PARTY AND COUNCIL

Two statewide organizations have Gay caucuses that somewhat rival one another although the majority of their members belong to both caucuses. They are in the party itself and the California Democratic Council, a "grass roots" organization that has no official status but has as its affiliates most of the states' Democratic clubs. The CDC has its convention March 2-5 — also at the Oakland Hyatt Regency.

Jim Foster, longtime party activist, says, "We formed the Toklas Democratic Club so we could attend the California Democratic Council convention in 1971." The CDC Gay Caucus was formed that year and some Toklas leaders have been a significant force within the CDC for 14 years. Two now hold state CDD positions — Treasurer Frank Fitch and Program Chair Steve Walters.

A Gay Caucus of the party itself was formed in 1977 with Stonewall's Gerry Parker as one of the founders. There is currently more active local party caucus participation by the Milk Democratic Club with Carole Migden as caucus co-chair and that club's Kraus on the National Platform Committee. Jack Trujillo holds the one upper-strata position in the party by an identified Gay person. He is Northern secretary.

Many critics of the CDC claim that it is now only a shadow of its former self and has lost much of its clout with politicians. While this may be true, it meets some needs, according to local Stonewall Demos president Paul Boneberg and Toklas president Sal Rosselli.

Boneberg noted, "The CDC makes our concerns visible. It is primarily a positive communications network. There is also a very visible Gay presence in the CDC so politicians who come to address it must address the Gay issue. It is effective for what we can get out of it."

Rosselli agrees and adds, "There is an excitement in the CDC as grass-roots coalitions are formed and you make some good friends and contacts. It is very useful. For example, when Alameda passed a Gay rights ordinance the many Black activists in that county did not protest. That was partly because they had worked with Gay people within the CDC."

Democratic Party Gay Caucus co-chair Migden is more critical of the CDC and her Milk Club has not even affiliated with the CDC this year. Migden said, "There is not the continuity and follow-through in the CDC that there is in the party. The center of activity is the party structure and it is now open to us. Tangible results is what we want."

Co-chair of the party's Gay Caucus, Marc Biefield agreed. His Los Angeles-based Milk Club is not participating in the CDC. He told this reporter, "We wouldn't consider affiliating. There is no reason to do it. CDC doesn't do anything and it has no influence."

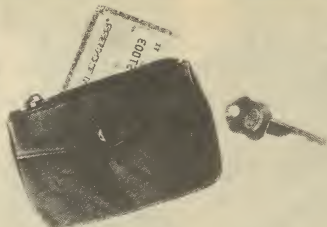
When asked about his club's role in the state party, Rosselli admitted that the Toklas Club had placed its earlier emphasis in the CDC. He now believes that while the CDC has its purpose "the main power is in the party. It is now important that we put as much energy in the party that we have in the CDC. However, I do not see us leaving the CDC. The CDC is people-related and we want to continue to build coalitions there."

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Cable Cars Pick Up 1200 Gay Riders

'Bay Area Reporter' Sweeps Journalism Awards

by Dianne Gregory

Glitz, glitter, and surprisingly few glitches marked the tenth anniversary of the Cable Car Awards held at the Japan Center Theater last Saturday. About 1,200 people, most in their finest whatever, came to see and be seen and pay tribute to what Gay people can accomplish.

The first Cable Car Awards and Show was held in 1975 at Bimbo's 365 Club. It has been held at Japan Center Theater since 1979. The theme of this year's awards presentation (as in previous years) representing a broad spectrum of achievements including sports, entertainment, journalism, and community was "Outstanding." Organizers of the show promised it would run only three hours, and it did run less than four.



University of California Regent Sheldon Andelson raises his award to the Japan Center crowd. (Photo: Rink)

It's hard to say what the highlight of the evening was. Debbie Saunders' riveting blues numbers? Dianne Feinstein sweeping across the stage in an elegant black ensemble with silver sequins? The Widow Norton presenting the Emperor Joshua Norton Award? It could have been when Hollywood's Alan Carr announced he was donating the proceeds of the first San Francisco performance of La Cage aux Folles to the four groups nominated for the Contribution to Community Well-Being award, or when Margie Adam sang her love songs. For me it was just looking out over the audience sitting at tables with flower arrangements and candles towards the stage where those chosen out of the masses basked in the limelight. It may seem corny or naive, but I felt proud to be there, to be among people who have triumphed over potential adversity, who are victorious.

The opening number personified the cooperation and effort it

takes to put on an awards show involving so many different segments of the Gay community. More than 200 people from three organizations — the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band — worked for three months on an arrangement of "I Am What I Am" from La Cage aux Folles. Ernest Venegas and Lea DeLaria began the number as a duet, and when the curtain opened behind them onto the full gathering of singers and musicians, a roar went up from the crowd that was almost primal.

Both the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and the Gay Men's Chorus gave individual performances. The San Francisco Tap Troupe did its thing, in addition to the Foggy City Dancers, formerly the Foggy City Squares. The Glide Memorial Methodist Church Ensemble had the misfortune of being the last act of

the evening, but got a good reaction from those who hadn't left to see Sylvester at the Castro.

Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel, famed comedy couple, broke up the audience with their schtick on "my personal relationship with God" and the Emma Goldman Memorial Collective theme song, "I'm Beginning to See the Light." The Hayward Raw Raws boogied in synch to "Saturday Night" by Elton John and brought down the house.

For entertainment value and sheer talent, Debbie Saunders should have taken home the prize. You could hear a pin drop in the theater as the audience became mesmerized by the earthy beauty of Saunders' voice. She said "it has always been a dream of mine" to play in a big theater, and I doubt her performance Saturday night will be the last time she does. Saunders is going places and I wouldn't be at all surprised if she plays to many audiences bigger than this year's Cable Cars.

In between the surprisingly professional entertainment events, awards, awards, and more awards were presented. You name it, somebody got an



Entertainment editor John Karr gets an early Valentine from award-winning playwright Robert Pittman. (Photo: Rink)

ing Contribution to Athletics award were Susan Fahey of Maud's and Sara Lewinstein of Artemis. Arthur Jackson and John Bracco received the Contribution to Athletics award in the men's division. The award for Outstanding Contribution to Community Well-Being went to the San Francisco AIDS Fund.

got another special award for best original script. Bob Cramer, chair of the Cable Car Board of Directors, received a Cable Car Cable Award.

Mayor Feinstein received the Dorothy Langston Human Rights Award, Jim Hormel and Jose Sarria received the Harvey Milk Community Service



Hydie Downard, Senator Milton Marks, Cable Car's originator Bob Cramer, and Sam Duca aide Larry Eppinette take their turn at the mike. (Photo: Rink)

award for it. David Kelsey of the New Bell Saloon got the Entertainer of the Year award over the likes of Meg Christian and Holly Near. Sylvester got the Outstanding Club Recording award for his "Don't Stop" on Megatone Records. Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel got the Critics' Award for Outstanding Cabaret Entertainer, and the Outstanding Fundraiser award went to Debbie Reynolds' National AIDS/KS Benefit at Davies Hall. The Outstanding Poster Design award went to the Candlelight March and Memorial advertisement. Mick Hicks got the Outstanding Photjournalism award and Allen White of the Bay Area Reporter got the Outstanding Journalist award. Karl Stewart, also of the Bay Area Reporter, was celebrated as Outstanding Columnist. The women chosen for the Outstand-

In addition to the many categorical awards, several special Board of Directors awards were presented, most notably three for non-Gay broadcast journalism. They were presented to KRON-TV news for responsible coverage of the AIDS crisis, to Francee Covington,

Award, and the Eagle got the Emperor Joshua Norton Award for a business, as it did the Outstanding Theme Promotion award.

Allen White, Media Advisor on the Cable Car Board of Directors, said they won't know for a couple of weeks what the proceeds will be from the awards show. The money will be funneled back into the Gay community at the discretion of its Board of Directors, he said. Alan Carr announced towards the end of Saturday night's show that he would underwrite the cost of the Cable Car Awards show in 1985.

Some of the awards were decided upon by the Board of Directors, others were nominated and selected by certain ad hoc committees, others were voted on by the audience.

10th annual Cable Car Awards amuse community glitterati

producer of a Pacific Currents segment on AIDS on KPIX, and to Joe Lovett, segment producer of a 20/20 show about AIDS that was the first to touch upon homophobia as a response to the crisis. A special award for a small theater was presented to Theatre Rhinoceros, which also



Jim Cvitanich and D.A. investigator Ron Huberman (his back to Rink's camera) award the Outstanding Event by a Men's Organization to the SF GDI's.

ALLAN CARR
ARTHUR LAURENTS
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VOL. XIV NO. 6 FEBRUARY 9, 1984

NEXT ISSUE OUT: FEBRUARY 16

NEXT DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 10

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Valentine's Red Herring

Seven months ago during the first flurry over the bathhouse closings we went on record to say that in the AIDS dilemma, the baths and the fuckatoriums are not the issue. Yet as symbols of the pestilence, remain easy targets for crusading zealots.

It was then bruited about that VD rates were going down oh well, things were looking up and there the matter rested.

This past week the *San Francisco Chronicle* relaunched their attack to close down the bad breath parlors. They palmed off two editorials as news articles in near-front news pages. Both were written by Randy Shilts. Saturday's was labeled a "news analysis" (which is an editor's artful dodging way of saying "opinion with appropriate nuggets"). The alluring headline was "AIDS Researchers Try to Stop Bathhouse Sex." And we have a cast of people who don't want their names used, a researcher who will speak as long as he isn't identified, and Supervisor Harry Britt frustrated and blaming the Department of Health for fucking up on the unabated fucking. We learn the secret weapon of the researchers (no, it's not a butterfly net) but a desire to post pictures of dying, disease-riddled and disfigured men — perhaps in every cubicle, perhaps over every bed.

PULLING BUTT PLUGS

We wrote in July that if the baths pulled their own plugs and died a natural death — like some of their patrons — no one would be the richer or the poorer. It would suggest the Gay male culture had gone on to greener pastures.

However, should anyone try to close them, we would fight tooth and claw to prevent it. The issue in this case would be constitutional, not a health issue. A major segment of the body politic would be denied the right to assemble in a place where nothing illegal was taking place.

Nothing has changed since last July, as it was the same the year before. Gay men's immune systems continue to collapse and they get deathly sick and 42.5% die. In March 1983 we were talking about "1,112 and Counting;" as we approach March 1984 we are at 3,200 cases.

The bathhouses are *not* the issue; yet they have become the target of those who are hot under their copdies to do something (anything) about the scourge. The logic runs: Gay men have death-dealing sex in these homosexual playpens. They cannot control themselves. If they can't keep themselves healthy, we must deny them an opportunity where they might become unhealthy. We don't know what the little bugger is, where he lurks, but we suspect he's transmitted from a diseased vessel into an undiseased recipient. We like to think the little buggers pass in unsheathed acts of buggery.

The fuckatoriums become then the stand-ins, symbols of poisoned sex. It is the other guys (never myself) who are "sinning" and they must be halted. Why? We attest to the Gay gods that it is for *their* sakes. No, not so. It is for our own sakes. "I," says each Gay man, don't have AIDS. "I" don't want to get it. And I don't want to have sex with someone who does, for fear "I" might get it. I want the whole Gay world clean — for their sakes? — no, for mine, when I want to get it on.

In the past two years I have witnessed so much hypocrisy with regard to AIDS that it's a long laugh — albeit a hollow one. Everyone spends more time telling everyone else how to lead their lives sexually when the only legitimate concern is my own sexual behavior.

Randy Shilts, columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, wants to close the baths. He has a huge press organization at his disposal, and his position makes hot copy and has the sympathy of his publishers. The genesis of his periodical (he has written the same piece before) "Close the Bathhouses" story is his private position. Like a backyard clothesline, he digs around until he can find shreds and tatters to hang on

(Continued on next page)

On a Friend's Death

★ Re: Death of Ronaldo Cisneros, 28, January 29, 1984 — active in many Gay functions, well-known, loved, and missed.

I remember that day last summer when we had our very first sidewalk sale. We both had outgrown or outused much of our clothes by then and the sale was a great way to get rid of those items. Your sister Yolanda had contributed some of her outfits from by-gone days and what fun we had going through those many-paisley-ed and geometric prints that could have done Cher proud in her "hippy" era. Our friend Connie came over with a load of goodies for sale also, hoping to make a few pennies to help out with the rent. If you remember, I had just bought my new motorcycle and moved it out front to show it off. I was so happy to be living in the Mission District that I even named my motorcycle accordingly: "The Spirit of the Mission." We used it to sit on when business was slow that day.

I remember it was a glorious Saturday morning and I had gotten up especially early that day and went out to sweep the walk and pick up the newspapers which were blown all around the front steps. You were still sleeping when I came back in, so, with a little knock on your door and a reminder that today was our big day, I left and went to get some breakfast. We had Egg McMuffins and watched some Scooby-Do and then got busy moving all the tables and lamps and clothes and shoes and belts and ties downstairs. I knew you weren't feeling well so I was glad to make most of those trips up and down the stairs while you stayed below and arranged things on the tables. The sun was shining bright and those last few sun-burnt days of that late Summer seemed like magical times, didn't they?

Connie came over about noon-time and by then we had already made a pocket full of money and were enjoying ourselves immensely. You were always so sweet to help me in bargaining with those elderly Mexican women from our neighborhood. They were tough to deal with and you knew that they were well accustomed to bartering in those open-air markets of their homeland and that I, a "whiteboy" from Indiana, was out of my element. You had to leave that afternoon to push paper on the corner of Castro and 18th and that was fine. I knew you considered that a very important part of your life and I was always impressed that you could give so much of your time to those causes; causes which you really never got paid for, but which I knew gave you much satisfaction to be a part of. You took me to so many wonderful things when we were together. Ron, I'm going to miss those happy times.

I remember that you really didn't want to live in the Mission, claiming that you were trying to get "away from all that," but you ceded to my wishes, because you knew how much I loved living there. You were afraid that I might get beaten up by a gang of Latinos or something like that even though I assured you that I would be O.K. You even gave me a "rape" whistle.

I remember thinking what would life be without you here, and I wondered if the sun would ever shine as bright. But now, I find, it shines even brighter because of you. Thank you for living in the Mission with me. I love you —

Your roommate, Jim

Shanti Shortfall

★ A month ago *The Sentinel* printed a news release announcing the Shanti Project's decision to become exclusively an AIDS Project. That decision was made by Jim Geary, the Executive Director, and a phone call vote of the Project's Board of Directors without consulting the volunteer body as a whole. Mr. Geary then cut off any free and open discussion of the issue at the next General Meeting of the Project's volunteers.

There are good arguments, pro and con, for the decision — the pro has been printed; the con: Shanti needs a diverse client population to ease the intense claustrophobia and "AIDS obsession" that exists for many volunteers. Working with non-AIDS and even

non-Gay clients is healthy "ecologically" — it enriches the Project, frees up perspective, and thus actually helps volunteers meet the serious situation in our community. Shanti says it has insufficient numbers of volunteers to work with non-AIDS situations. The lack of volunteers has more to do with the way the Project is run than any shortage of volunteers in the community. To wit —

Shanti responds to crisis by being in (and representing itself as in) a perpetual state of emergency causing considerable wear and tear on volunteers and staff alike. This crisis mentality and ongoing emergency is skillfully used by the Executive Director and the Board to squash dissent and discussion about the direction and quality of the Project. Volunteers are told to love Shanti on the Director's terms or leave it. Unfortunately many good volunteers have chosen the latter; volunteer turnover is very high.

Also, statistics are exaggerated to justify emergency decisions. For example, there is no way Shanti worked with 197 Persons with AIDS and 300 Loved Ones in "October alone" as Jim is quoted in the news release. 197 is about half the number of CDC/Bay Area cases since 1981. That number may represent at most the Project's total number of AIDS clients served, but certainly not for one month.

Sadly, other volunteers who have questioned Project policies or disagreed with communication tactics of higher-ups have been asked to leave the Project. Shanti is not democratic — the money flows from City Hall; power and arrogance has settled in the hands of a few. We hope this letter stimulates discussion. For the above reasons we elect to withhold our names at this time.

Two Shanti Volunteers

On Sex and Bath Houses

★ Closing the whorehouses of San Francisco did not cause a decrease in prostitution. In fact, there is good reason to believe that VD increased among the prostitutes transferred to the streets because the pimps are less concerned than were the madams about cleanliness and health. Similarly, closing the bathhouses as advocated by Dr. James Curran, coordinator of the AIDS Task Force, is not likely to have any effect on the incidence of AIDS. There are no facts to prove that you are more likely to contract AIDS in the baths than in any other location. Only the most naive would believe that converting bathhouses to gymnasiums, as Dr. Curran has suggested, is going to cause sexuality to decrease.

Rather than seeking to decrease sexuality, we need to find a means of decreasing the probability of contracting AIDS. If Dr. Curran's Center for Disease Control in Atlanta was doing its job, three years and a thousand cases after the beginning of this epidemic, we would have a comprehensive profile on the men stricken with AIDS. We would know who is most susceptible and the explicit sexual patterns most associated with susceptibility. The only study of this type available is over two years old, based upon an inadequate sampling and leading to erroneous conclusions. Initially we were led to believe that men who contracted AIDS were highly promiscuous and lived in the fast drugged lanes of gay life. This was not subsequently refuted by scientific data published by CDC, but by individual empirical observation of the men each of us knew who had AIDS. Evidently Dr. Curran and a group of our local moralists are still operating on false data. Fortunately, Dr. Mervyn Silverman and the SF AIDS Foundation are acting with common sense on more realistic information.

Gay men are not going to stop having sex. Sexual behavior is one of the most important means of identity reinforcement among all men. Gay men will modify their sexual patterns if they are provided with valid data and less medico-moralistic bullshit.

Martin F. Stow
San Francisco

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

Detour Lady

★ In the interest of preserving the good name of the Detour and their entire staff, I want to share with you and the public, my experience as a regular female attendee at the Detour. I've been going to the Detour frequently for at least a year and I have always had a good time, *hassle free!*

The staff has worked very hard to make all their customers feel welcome, comfortable and more important, that they enjoy themselves.

The Detour has excellent music, good drinks and an atmosphere that allows one to enjoy both. This is what the Detour, its customers and its staff are really all about.

Please consider the facts of this letter which represent a year of good times for me and my friends, as opposed to you (Gael Shapiro & Diane Christensen) and your friends.

Gini Spiersch
San Francisco

On the Toklas Warpath

★ I find it quite interesting that Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club is on such a warpath against the Detour in its so-called anti-Lesbian tactics.

Dear Womyn (notice how politically correct I can be). I have often heard how politically correct it is for you to have womyn space. There is the room at Old Wives Tales. The Artemis Cafe was womyn only until recently. I guess these places are discriminating against men. How about the annual womyn's weekend which prohibits men or males over age 11 from attending, but yet the Annual Men's Retreat invites and encourages women to attend.

Now womyn of Alice B. Toklas, if we are to be politically correct and democratic as your group's name states, should not we look at Maude's or Amelias which I doubt have unblemished records in their discrimination against men. How many men have been turned away? How about a friend of mine who did make it inside Amelias, but was denied entrance to a bathroom? Methinks this is illegal.

I hear that Lesbian bouncers feel that men might be troublemakers. Can't Gay male bouncers feel the same way about women? Maybe the Detour could put a sign up stating "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone!"

Womyn you demand your womyn only space. Well, men want men only space. The atmosphere at the Detour is definitely masculine. It is a cruise bar. What you would find in there is beyond me.

So go do your homework (not a sexist statement). Take a group similar to the one you took to the Detour and go to various Lesbian establishments. When the men in this group are welcomed openly and smilingly by the Lesbian bouncers and owners, then come back to the Gay press and state your argument. Until then, I find your arguments one sided, prejudiced and inflammatory. Maybe Peg's Place or Amelias would like a picket in front of their establishments.

It's a double edged sword, sisters. I applaud the Detour. Dan Denman, you do a great job.

Jim Thompson
San Francisco

Reagan Will Last



★ After reading Wayne Friday's article about Ronald Reagan Again I had to reply.

I get tired of everyone complaining about Reagan, when I feel that if they realistically stop and compare everything that means "Reagan" they are better off.

If the Democrats truly want the White House in '84, they can do one of two things — have Mondale select Jesse Jackson as his Vice President or have John Glenn select a woman as his Vice President.

If the Democrats don't comply, I'm happy to say that Reagan will be around through 1988.

Ben Whitmer
San Francisco

Speed Kills

★ The recent spate of articles in the *Chronicle-Examiner* about AIDS irritates me beyond tolerance. How can the allopathic medical profession (the M.D.s) who admit to knowing so little about AIDS make such sweeping statements about how to prevent it? The allopaths can't find the virus and admit, quite honestly, that their diagnostic procedures for AIDS are not very exact. How then can they so freely advise us on the method of transmission of the disease? I do not understand their logic.

Somewhat, I think that if man-to-man sex play were all that dangerous, the human race would have died out ten thousand years ago. We are everywhere, we have always been everywhere and we will continue to be everywhere.

With all due apologies to the well-meaning men and women who take their Hippocratic oath solemnly, I think some of them are allowing their homophobia to cloud their reason.

Those of us queers who have watched our friends and acquaintances die can recognize one predominant piece of evidence. The vast majority of the victims have lived life in the very fast lane: alcohol, hard drugs, great dissipation and the lousy health habits that go along with these. Those of us who have watched these people die have gotten our acts together and have started eating and sleeping regularly and taking care of our bodies.

As to the good Dr. Curran of the Center for Disease Control, he is beginning to sound like Anita Bryant and Jerry Falwell. It is common knowledge that about 80 percent of Gay men in cities have had parasites, while in the general U.S. population less than 5 percent have had parasites. Also, about 80 percent of Gay men have had hepatitis while the general population less than 20 percent have had the disease. Also, it is common knowledge that we consume far more alcohol than most Americans. (Why else does Coors court the Gay market so carefully?)

Parasitic dysentery, alcoholism and hepatitis are each of them serious diseases; in combination they are extraordinary! If Dr. Curran and his statistician epidemiologists cannot find this in their files, I will gladly give them a lesson in the use of contingency tables and the Chi-square distribution. It cannot be difficult to show statistically the AIDS is almost always a disease of dissipation and dissolution.

As a mathematical statistician and as a practitioner of traditional Chinese medicine and a student of their five thousand years of epidemiology, I find it possible to predict another outbreak of AIDS in February and March of this year. The spring round of colds and pneumonias are due to get those who do not take care of their health at this season. And we queers will be out there on the front line watching our friends die and seeing for ourselves what some of our learned colleagues cannot see: Life in the fast lane is dangerous: Speed kills.

Charles E. Hall, PhD
San Francisco

On Baths and Beauties

★ With all of the continuing growth of the AIDS epidemic, there has been increasing controversy on the bathhouses of our city. I would like to state that not all people go to the baths for sexual reasons. Rich Street has a very nice gym, TV area, and restaurant, along with the many benefits of a bathhouse: steam room, sauna, etc. . . There are a large amount of people that go to the baths to meet people and to also relax or work out.

I would like to formally thank the staff and management of Ritch Street for having a nice facility and also for allowing me to live one of my life-long fantasies. I have always had an affection for Al Parker, and while making a return visit to Ritch Street, I was able to not only get his autograph but to actually live my fantasy of being with this wonderful man. Some may think that a porn star does not deserve such admiration, but to me Al Parker is one of the best men I have ever met. He not only has a body, but does have a great mind, for we talked for quite some time. It is nice to see that there is a bathhouse in San Francisco that is well staffed (right now anyway) and can have a reputation nice enough to bring a man like Al Parker to its facility.

The only disagreement with the place that I hold is that they are not more select with the people that they allow in. I have noticed in the last year that the increase in body-builders is admirable and the undesirables are getting fewer and fewer.

Another issue that I would like to address is the lack of good "showbars" in San Francisco. Being from Houston, I have grown accustomed to being able to be entertained by some of the best in the business, i.e. Hot Chocolate, Naomi Simms, Eartha Kitt, Tash Kohl and many, many more. These are true professionals in the field, not like some of the "skag drag" you see entertaining in the bars of San Francisco. So many people have forgotten the tea dances with beer bust and the 11:00 PM show on Sunday nights. If only Dick Collier would realize that a lot of people would love to be entertained by good female impersonators instead of some of the entertainment he does book. In the south we had pageants for everything from Miss Houston to Miss "Every Other Major City" in the states. Along with these pageants we also had pageants for men to represent the cities or states as the Mr. ? winner. This gave the Gay communities thousands upon thousands of hours of top notch entertainment, but also helped to pick the top candidates to represent the city or state in the national contests.

From what I can see San Francisco as well as the rest of the cities in California have Emperor's and Emperesses, which are fine for some, but I would still like to see show bars like the Copa, The Landing, Midnight Sun, Numbers and many many more in Texas right here in San Francisco. It is usually the "HE MEN" of our city who put down drag and impersonators, but you will notice that when it is time to put on a dress, they are the first to try and be in the line light.

Thank you very much for allowing me to express my opinions on these two subjects. I wish you continued success in your journalistic ventures.

Billy Blanco

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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

it. The San Francisco Department of Health (i.e. Dr. Merv Silverman) is the usual villain. Supervisor Harry Britt has to say something that smacks of responsible leadership. How could he — running for election and his life — stand behind irresponsible sexings?

Randy Shilts' heart might well be in the right place, but his head is in the wrong place. As I've said before, the baths are not what ails us — but have become the handy, attackable bunker.

It's sex that Shilts and Britt and the frustrated doctors want to stop. Stop sex and you'll stop AIDS and you'll stop people dying. Oh no, they'll say — it's safe sex we want people to have. That is permissible. It's the dirty sex we're out to stop. The unsafe kind.

We deserve sounder thinking in this town, particularly from our own.

Paul Lorch



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LETTERS

On Gays Dying Gaily

★ I am trying very hard to control my rage not to mention my hysterical sense of "Guerra, guerra" against a very sincere-looking Tom Simpson, who feels very good with himself these days. I bet! Another exploitive example of Gay Greed.

Let's make money off of Gay Death so I can take my three vacations a year, buy the Betamax, finally, not to mention that smart new BMW.

Death is a sacred rite. There are three billion of us on this earth and all three billion must be dead on a schedule within this lifetime.

I cannot see the dying process as a high camp experience to be marketed. In memory of those who have died and are dying, hasn't the past three years ignited at least a spark of maturity and contemplation?

We are no longer children!

And leave Maria Callas out of it. I suggest for those who are still in the closet about death to read *As I Lay Dying* by Phillipe Andres and *Who Dies?* an investigation of conscious living and conscious dying by Stephen Levine.

Write a will and continue living with sensitivity and vibrancy! I wonder of those who are dying how much time are they giving to deciding between a leather coffin or a chartreuse number.

"Guerra, guerra," I am furious.

Dick Gae
 San Francisco

Some Day He'll Come Along

★ As an avid reader of the *Bay Area Reporter*, I always seem to read articles concerning the "prejudices" within our community, as well as outside our community. The biggest prejudice I can see is within our own community. What I'm talking about is the prejudice against a person's looks. I'm between an ugly and average looking guy who has strived for years to find that "Special Someone" and believe me it's not from lack of trying. I have always given so much of myself to the few guys I do meet, yet I always end up alone because of my looks. Seems like everytime I meet a nice guy, an attractive guy comes along, and that's the end of that. Take this one guy for instance, John, who works for a "Straight" comedy club here in the city, The Punch Line. This guy came right out and told me he loved me; two days later he told me he had met a cute guy at the Stud and they were leaving for Maine together. I was devastated. Little did this fool realize how much he hurt me, but it wasn't the first time. Then I met this average looking guy from Redwood City who works for United Airlines, who thought I wanted him for a lover after seeing him twice. I enjoyed his company, but I wasn't in love with him, especially not hardly knowing him.

Hopefully, one day soon I'll meet someone I can call my "lover" who will accept me for me, but that's not easy to find. This excludes Lesbians. I really envy their lifestyle. They accept and treat well all the ladies within their community. Looks aren't that important; they seem more human than the Gay males.

Here I am 27 years old, and I feel as if I've wasted all these years on a lifestyle that seems to lay all the blame and prejudices on the heterosexual community.

John Dowell
 Oakland

Falcon Backorders

★ I imagine that there are items of greater importance to print and discuss than the following, but I feel obliged to find some forum to alert others to the strange business behavior of Falcon Films I have recently encountered. Let me preface the story with the statement that for a number of years I have had nothing but good service from Falcon and cannot, even now, believe that they are so damaging their fine reputation.

On 8 May 1983, I ordered ten (10) films from Falcon. Payment accompanied the order in the form of a personal check. The check was cashed and cleared on 12 May 1983. I have received two shipments which total six (6) of the ten (10) films ordered.

Although I do not recall the exact date of the first shipment, it included four (4) films. The second shipment, which included two (2) films was sent via UPS on 22 September 1983. There have been no further shipments and there are still four (4) films on back order.

On 11 October 1983, I responded to a note from Ms. Kate Webb, Customer Service, asking her to review my account for errors and report to me. I also advised her of a change of address. There was no response to that letter.

I wrote to Ms. Webb again on 7 November 1983, at which time I stated that if I did not receive a satisfactory report on the status of my account within ten days, and/or the order was not complete within thirty days, I would report the matter to the proper authorities for investigation. Copies of these letters were also forwarded to Mr. Bill Clayton, Marketing Director. To date, I have received neither communication, nor shipment.

On 7 December 1983, I wrote to the State of California Department of Consumer Affairs and was advised that due to the nature of my complaint, my letter was forwarded to the San Francisco District Attorney, Consumer Fraud Unit on 16 December 1983. Ms. Kathleen McDowell, Consumer Specialist, Consumer Fraud/Economic Crime Section of the District Attorney's Office contacted me on 28 December 1983, to advise that within three to four weeks this case will be assigned for investigation.

While I am aware that Falcon does a large volume business and laboratory constraints can sometimes slow orders, I cannot accept the current lack of communication and follow-through. Anyone having similar problems, or contemplating doing business with Falcon needs to know there is a problem. Falcon owes its customers an explanation.

E. R. Canaan
 San Rafael

Good Spirits



★ The Spirit of a thing depends upon the attitude with which a thing is done. A good attitude usually means a driving spirit. A bad attitude usually means a dead spirit.

And yet we possess many different spirits (eh? hie!) depending upon the task to be accomplished.

If we feel that we must engage in sexual relations with other people, the spirit with which we do it, (and there are many), is something which is particularly attractive or repulsive depending upon the spirit with which others view it.

If sexual relations come to us in many different spirits, then we can be sure something real is happening to us. Promiscuity is the spiritual experience. It forces us to change our spirit with each new, different and individual spirit we encounter.

Steve Perkins
 San Francisco

Votes and the East Bay

★ The article on the January meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club by John Wetzl contained his opinion of an action taken by the Club. That opinion, however, seems to me to be based on a misunderstanding of the situation.

Our Political Action Committee proposed that the Club schedule "early endorsements" for Congressional and State legislative seats. An amendment was offered to add one County Supervisor's seat, that of Sup. John George — one of our strongest, dearest and oldest friends. The amendment was rejected; instead we chose to wait and deal with all three Supervisors' seats in April, the usual time for endorsements for the June election.

Reporter Wetzl clearly implied that we were careless of the interest of an important lesbian/gay institution by "ignoring the opportunity to endorse early an unchallenged leader in Gay rights legislation on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, the governing body that "relegates (sic) as much as 20 percent of the operating budget of Berkeley's Pacific Center."

Our Club's goal is a Board of Supervisors who will consistently support adequate funding for the Pacific Center. But neither giving nor withholding an "early endorsement" for John George will affect this process. John George is our firm friend: he's not worried about our support and we are not worried about his vote on the Pacific Center.

The key is in District 4 where the conservative incumbent is retiring. There are already four strong candidates, one of whom is Councilmember Marge Gibson who successfully carried the Oakland lesbian/gay rights ordinance for us on the Oakland City Council. Most people expect she will receive our endorsement in April.

But Marge Gibson is not an incumbent; it is possible her strong opponents will keep her out of the runoff. We must evaluate the other candidates and establish rapport with them because the final choice may narrow down to two of them. Only in the process of a regular endorsement procedure do we get all the candidates to tell us their position on the Pacific Center's funding and also on AIDS allocations.

An "early endorsement" is not appropriate for District 4 and Marge Gibson because the situation is too complex. But we felt that to give any Supervisorial endorsement before we considered Marge Gibson's night seem that we were ungrateful for her work. Hence, the decision to deal with all of them in April at the usual time.

Some might disagree with our chain of reasoning — but we are certainly not uncaring about the Pacific Center. It is precisely because we have a serious goal to support the Pacific Center that we chose to be so cautious with this matter. We will give full consideration to all the Supervisorial contests at our April 8 meeting.

Tom Brougham
 Political Action Com. Chair
 East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club

Butts of Note

★ I see "Billybut" is at it again. All I can say is I hope he never has enough money to buy a full page ad. If he does, I'm certain he will go up on his knees and provide anyone who cares to look with a clear view of the Crab Nebula.

E. J. Kitson
 San Francisco

LETTERS

Cruel Book

★ Mr. Wyman claims to have a "great respect for Christ." (Letters, Jan. 26), but apparently he hasn't bothered to read what the Bible actually says about his hero. If one takes the time to read this boring and poorly written book, he will find that Jesus did, indeed, promise everlasting hellfire for the majority of the population, as I stated in my letter of December 29. In fact, Jesus seems to gloat when describing all the "wailing and gnashing of teeth" that will occur on the judgement day.

As an atheist, I urge everyone to read the Bible and discover all the cruelties, absurdities, and contradictions contained therein. And if anyone out there is tired of hearing what Christians have to say about their religion and would like to hear an atheist perspective, he or she may dial 431-XGOD for a recorded educational message.

Douglas B. Randolph
Secretary, SF Chapter
Gay Atheist League of America

So Long Fotomaters

★ I used to work at the Fotomat at Castro & 18th, but because of my dislike of neckties and blue polyester smocks, I am no longer employed there. Well, fine. The big corporation has got their rules and I've got my ethics. The two just clashed once too often.

But enough of that. This letter is my means of publicly thanking the Castro neighborhood for being so hospitable and for showing me that it IS okay to be what I am! After all, it's not the Levi's that make the person, it's the person underneath the Levi's that counts . . . er - uh - well, you know what I mean!

If the B.A.R. will allow me, I'd like to say "thanks" and "so long" (not "Goodbye," I hope) to the many friends I've made of my regular customers, especially Peter G.; Sallie H. (and Patrick!); Robert L.; Paul R.; Michael S.; "Elf"; Ron P. (the star); and all the others not listed . . . you know who you are.

Also, from Liquor Express; Kenn, Larry, and Steve (ex of -). All at Hibernia, especially John, Corrinne, and Lee. To "Mono" and Charles, who have gone before me. And most of all, to Leda, for all of it.

Ya'll keep in touch, I'd like to hear from you (or anyone with a job to offer!).

Thanks again Castro.

Raymond Formanek
San Francisco

Politically Mature

★ We are all aware of the participation of the Gay community in the electoral process and that this is a force not to be reckoned with.

It is time for all politicians to realize that the Gay community all across the country, and especially in San Francisco, has come into political maturity. We cannot be used as a political whipping post.

In 1984, we will give hell to politicians who appeal to bigotry and try to pit one segment of the community against another. This type of politician cannot win an election. We Gays will flex our political muscle to defeat them.

Ed Dollak
San Francisco

History According to a Progressive

★ I was shocked to see that the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club newsletter mentions a sergeant of arms at their meetings. I believe that this is an attempt to stifle dissent and different opinions and will encourage violence. I wrote on this subject to the B.A.R. in June 1980 after men acting as sergeants of arms tried to beat up Robin Tyler when she spoke in favor of speakers at the 1980 parade celebration. Her supporters at the meeting defended her.

When they tried to silence Robin Tyler two weeks later at the parade, hundreds of people batted backstage. Robin Tyler spoke and spoke well. This problem of the Milk Club could be a trend. A Young Republican Against Freedom recently spoke in favor of a sergeant of arms at a parade meeting and offered himself as the "thug to do the job." The 1983 parade security co-chairs attempted an anti-progressive coup to take over the 1984 parade, though one of them is straight. Their allies appear to have been some bisexuals.

I've known numerous parade monitors, paramilitary and security people, and I'm not the only person who can make some generalizations on this sensitive subject that occurs on a national and international scale. These people do not understand the democratic process, and incessantly try for one-man (or one-woman, like the 1982 female co-chair) rule. They are not too bright (which helps them do dreary monotonous jobs), love to give orders ("off the street, off the sidewalk, off the bed"), and are overwhelmingly white and don't understand the value of diversity, which only makes their lives more boring. Many are violence prone. Robert Opel the artist was badly beaten along with TV camera people at the 1979 parade by Robert Dunn and other monitors. Monitors threatened violence against straight and gay press at the scene of the float accident scene at the 1982 parade.

My friends and I could become active again in parade politics, as should all progressive lesbians and gay people. The B.A.R. would make a great contribution

by assigning a reporter to the parade activities.

Cindy Williams
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: When the truth can be so easily mugged, why bother to send a reporter?

P. Lorch

Detour Straightens Record

★ The admission policy of the Detour is: To admit anyone who is of legal age, and who is not obviously intoxicated.

In a recent article, two or more women claim that they were denied entry after refusing to provide three pieces of identification. I regret that an employee may have made an error in not admitting anyone who produced satisfactory identification, i.e., to wit, a valid California Driver's License or ID Card, or Passport with photo, or other State or National photo ID that is valid. Any ONE of which is acceptable.



Alice's Diane Christensen

The doorman, who was on his first night's duty at the door, is no longer in the employ of the Detour. Another employee, also on one of his first three nights on the door, has been removed from that duty. Doormen are instructed to prevent any misinterpretation of the policy.

To my knowledge neither woman in that incident has ever attempted to enter the Detour either before or since that evening. I am sure that if she had she would have been admitted.

I regret that any error could ever be made by anyone on my staff. We strive to treat all our customers with courtesy, kindness, and respect. We value their business too much to do less.

Gary S. Bernier
General Manager, Detour

High & Low Opinions

★ While I generally agree with the January 26 letter from Linton Stables, III ("A Higher Road"), I strongly dislike its prevalent Gay male indication. In the San Francisco Gay male community, there is a strong feeling that says: "If you disagree with me, you're wrong." Right or wrong, everyone has the right to publicly state their feelings. In this specific case, please be extra tolerant. After all, there really are people who think that the enormity of a crime, sometimes dictates extra-strong action. We must grant that this is an exceptionally difficult area to handle properly.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

Bitch in Quentin

★ I am Cathy, a 5'9", blond and blue, 160 lb. drag queen. I'm into shaving my legs, wearing makeup, dressing, walking, talking, acting, feeling, thinking, and doing all I know how to do as only a true woman would. I have been out of the closet for seven years and even suck and fuck like a bitch. That's because I am a bitch! But it's fucked up because I'm a bitch behind bars! San Quentin sucks and I'd love to hear from some of your readers out there, just anyone who feels so inclined. Don't sweat who you are or what you're all about. I can deal with everything from men who are still straight, all the way around the scale to women who've gone back to being straight. I would like you to print my letter because I have never felt this alone before, and I'm 29 years old but am open-minded enough for anyone 16 to 60. A cheerful smile once in awhile would force a ray of sunshine through cracks in this wall, and a hot sexy flick with an SASE would be all I could ever hope for. A chance of finding friendship awaits those of you who have pen and pad handy. I promise each of you a prompt reply. Please get in touch with me soon. My days seem to pass much slower than your own. God bless and take care.

Cathy
Box 84815
Tamal, CA 94974

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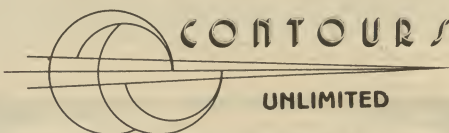
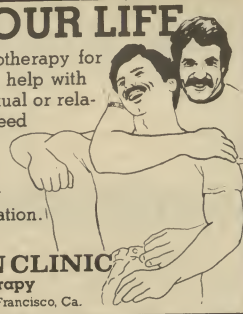
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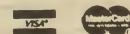
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SF Gays Busted at Hayward Bar

Harassment Charges Boil East Bay Town

by John Wetzel

San Francisco resident and Gay activist Ron Thompson has threatened legal action against the city of Hayward this week. With the cooperation of Hayward Raw Rahs coordinator Guy Andrade, Thompson plans to organize a march and rally to protest his January 29 arrest and to publicize a documented track record of police harassment on Hayward's Gay strip that dates back years.

Meanwhile, tension remains at the boiling point among Hayward Gays and Lesbians, rekindled by what might have become just another quiet dope bust out in Hayward's main cruising ground — a municipal parking lot just behind the Mission Street strip.

Thompson says it's easier for him as an out-of-towner to challenge the harassment, but one local business owner has spoken out and he fears that local response to the "continual" harassment could become explosive. "I've heard talk of violence, and even of police cars being turned over," said Very Video owner Bruce York. "I don't want to see any injuries. What I'm trying to do is to make peace before the real trouble starts."

Thompson and four companions were arrested at around 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 29, as they made their way from a parked van to one of the local Gay bars. The five were pat-searched, tested for sobriety, then taken into custody at the Hayward city jail where they were held for seven hours before being released. The charge was 647(f), drunk in public — marijuana intoxication. Alameda County's district attorney's office subsequently dropped all of the charges against the five.

District Attorney Walter Jackson explained, "I don't recall many cases when the person has been tried on 647(f) drug charges. In fact, I don't know if anyone has ever been tried on 647(f) drug charges."

Thompson believes his arrest was motivated by homophobia, and the seven (technically legal) hours he was held in jail were simply a form of harassment. "It was a field day at the Hayward jail last Sunday," he said.

Thompson claims that one of the arresting officers called one of the five arrestees a "faggot," and claims that as he himself was released, he was met by jeers from on-duty police of-

ficers. He says that the charges were dropped because they could not stick. Police Watch Commander Sgt. Joliette declined comment on the matter.

Accounts of police harassment of the strip go back years. Frank Frommelt, who owns the Spoiled Brat, used to manage the 30-year-old Turf Club. The Spoiled Brat had not been disturbed in the four months it has been open until last Sunday, when an officer made a carding sweep. But Frommelt gave accounts of arrests that he witnessed while working at the Turf Club.

One public intoxication arrest took place as a patron walked from the bar to a waiting auto. Other accounts have police escorting patrons out of bars and arresting them upon entering public property. And there are others.

"It doesn't happen in San Francisco," York said, "but it is still happening in these outlying districts. It's gotten to the point where the kids walk out of the bars holding their ID's over their heads."

Local business owners (bar owners mostly) agree with police that there is probably more police activity in the area around Hayward's Gay bars than in virtually any other area in Hayward.

Captain Robert Power of the Hayward Police Department told the *Bay Area Reporter*: "There is more activity downtown because there is more going on there. It's true. But we try not to single anyone out. It doesn't matter what kind of businesses they are." It did matter to Captain Power that the businesses are mostly bars, but apparently not that they are Gay establishments. "Wherever there is a bar," he said, "there are people subject to arrest for alcohol intoxication."

Thompson and others say Gays are singled out and they claim the ethic for fair play is missing from police procedure.

Under state law, a person may be arrested in violation of section 647(f) if they "are unable to care for themselves or others," or in the words of Captain Power, "if there's a danger of the defendant falling down and breaking his head open."

Thompson claims he was "fine." According to police reports, Thompson was "swaying, confused, argumentative, had glazed-over eyes, droopy eyelids, dilated pupils, and sluggish reactions."

Thompson claimed the group smoked a joint in the van. The police report says they were seen "standing around in the parking lot smoking a cigarette" that officers assumed was marijuana by the way they cupped their hands over the cigarette and passed it among each other.

Jackson said, "At the District Attorney's office we did not feel that the six people involved displayed the symptoms to warrant prosecuting on the charges. I saw the tickets signed. The writing was legible, and the conversation he had with the police was coherent."

Thompson had explained to the arresting officers that he had brought the group to Hayward to "show them the Gay community here." The officers' response was to say "shame on you" and to place Thompson under arrest. Officers later reported that Thompson had been "argumentative." Thompson claims that no derogatory remarks were issued by any of the arrestees and that they "played it cool."

Thompson was active in organizing transportation to the 1979 March on Washington for Gay Rights and helped organize a sit-in on the steps of City Hall in San Francisco when John Briggs came to town.

Thompson will pursue litigation through the National Gay Rights Advocates and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Jose to Speak at Dignity Banquet

Dignity/San Francisco, the organization of Gay Catholics, has scheduled its annual Pax et Bonum Awards Dinner for Saturday, February 25 at the Showplace Cabaret, 2 Henry Adams Street.

Press contact Kevin Calegari says that the festivities will begin at 6 PM with no-host cocktails, followed by dinner at 7:30 PM and dancing from 9 PM until 1 AM. Featured speaker will be Jose Sarria, aka the "Widow Norton," longtime Gay activist and first openly Gay person to run for public office.

Over 200 persons at last year's dinner joined in honoring Dignity's first Pax et Bonum Award recipients, Episcopal Bishop William Swing, Sister Eileen DeLong, and Assemblyman Art Agnos.

Pax et Bonum Award 1984 recipients are Jose Sarria; Rev. Daniel O'Connor, priest of the San Francisco Archdiocese, former member of the Gay/Lesbian Task Force and director of Bridge Building, an urban retreat center; and Madeline Ritchie, former officer of Dignity/San Francisco and Dignity International, and chair of the Task Force of the Consultation on Homosexuality, Social Justice, and Roman Catholic Theology. Dignity's Board of Directors will also present a special award to the Shanti Project, in gratitude for its pioneering work with people with AIDS, their families and loved ones.

The Pax et Bonum Award is given to persons who have shown leadership in the struggle for human rights and social justice in the fields of politics, community action or religion. "Pax et Bonum," which means "peace and blessing" in Latin, was St. Francis of Assisi's daily greeting to his followers.

"Jose, Madeline and Dan are examples for all of us who are committed to justice in our time," said Calegari. "We are proud to be able to thank them and the Shanti Project for their leadership and the inspiration they have given to us."

Tickets for the dinner are \$30, and can be reserved by calling Dignity at 863-4940.

Pros Over 30

Professionals Over 30/San Francisco, a fraternal and social organization for men, will hold a Valentine's Day Wine and Cheese Social on Tuesday, February 14, 7:30 PM.

The promise is an evening of conversation, fine wines and cheeses, in an atmosphere befitting camaraderie and the making of new friends and acquaintances. Space is limited; call Dan (552-7158) to coordinate provisions.

For information on Professionals Over 30/San Francisco, write to Tom James, P.O. Box 421161, San Francisco, CA 94142.

Norman Auction

There will be a fund-raising auction at Maud's bar, 937 Cole Street, on Thursday, February 16, to raise funds for Friends of Pat Norman for Supervisor.

The auction begins at 7 PM, and will feature Chris Puccinelli and other community celebrities as guest auctioneers.

To donate items to the auction, call (415) 641-8781.

Stonewall Boosts Jesse Jackson

Boneberg Calls for Convention March

by Bruce Pettit

Despite reservations because of his religious background, the Rev. Jesse Jackson has elicited some enthusiastic support in his quest for the Democratic presidential nomination from the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club.

Stonewall member A. Billy S. Jones, who is working close to the leadership of Jackson's San Francisco campaign, remarked: "We need to keep the lavender stripe in the rainbow coalition" — Jackson's term for disparate elements in American society that could, he contends, forge a majority.

Jackson won a club straw poll Monday night with 22 votes. The 1972 party nominee, George McGovern was second at 11. Senator Alan Cranston, who the city's two other Gay Democratic clubs say has the best Gay-rights record, trailed with 4. And national frontrunner Walter Mondale had only 2.

The tally will guide Stonewall's planning for participation in the March 11 caucuses to recommend candidates' delegate choices for the June 5 primary election ballot. Stonewall was barred from an outright endorsement because it is a member of the California Democratic Council and must await CDC's March endorsement.

Jean-Jacques Zenger, Stonewall corresponding secretary, expressed reserved support for the Chicago founder of Operation PUSH: "There are a lot of Baptist ministers working on the campaign. As we know as Gay people, the church has not always been the best friend of ours. But I like seeing Asians, Black people, and women working for him."

President Paul Boneberg withheld a personal endorsement but supported Jackson in the straw poll, in part because he can inspire the registration of new voters that "is crucial to defeat Ronald Reagan."

Moreover, Boneberg was impressed by Jackson's "tremendous risk in supporting the Lesbian/Gay community. He is not in his last hurrah; the man is 42 years old, and for the rest of his political career he will have to defend his position on Gay civil rights. That is not true of most of the other candidates. He comes from a religious base and alienates some of that base to support us."

However, Paul Melbostad, an attorney in Thomas Horn's law firm and a McGovern backer, implored: "Jackson doesn't really equate us with other minorities. He somehow feels that Gay people make a conscious choice whether or not to be Gay . . . It is important to remember that it was McGovern who wrote the rules that first realized the building of coalitions in the Democratic Party."

Local Democratic chair Linda Post apparently made no impact in urging support of Mondale, who she felt can best defeat Reagan. "Everything I have ever fought for in my politi-

at 7:30 and urged community input.

Stonewall will suggest the new independent group select Sunday, July 15, for the national march. (The Democratic Convention meets July 16-19.)

Stonewall members, however, rejected a proposal aimed at merging the annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day parade with the new event.

Vice president Leslie Manning insisted, "Nothing will divide this community faster than to try to take the parade away." She noted that the parade is a commemoration of the Stonewall riot in 1969 — "a spontaneous act that ignited a movement. To deny the importance of that day to ourselves and to the rest of the world is to deny a very basic part of ourselves."

Manning said the Gay Day parade would be a great "welcoming to an entire month of activities": the Hookers' Convention, the Democratic Convention, the All-Star Game, and the Olympics (in Los Angeles).

In other action Monday night, Stonewall:



County Democratic Party Chair Linda Post pitches for Mondale at Stonewall's straw balloting. (Photo: Rink)

- Endorsed an informational picket of the Detour bar, set to begin February 16. The Detour is charged by the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club of discriminating against women and racial minorities in admission policies.

- Endorsed a March 17 rally by "Project National Interest" demanding U.S. nonintervention in Central America. Stone-

wall members were disturbed at allegations of anti-Gay activity by Nicaragua's left-wing government, but decided U.S. involvement is another issue.

- Expressed "outrage" at reports of violent beatings and other crackdown activities by Mexico's new government. The club will consider a boycott of recreational and business travel to Mexico.

GAY-DAY DATE CHANGE REJECTED

A National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights — a demonstration at the Democratic National Convention this summer — was formally launched as Stonewall invited the formation next week of a separate organization to plan it.

The club has reserved the Women's Building — 3542 18th Street — for a kickoff meeting next Wednesday, February 15,

Save up to 80% in the extraordinary end-of-season clearance at The Gap. Tops, bottoms, outers, unders, overs, his and hers. Lots of colors, lots of sizes, lots of casual looks you can wear right now. When something this big happens, there's no need to shout it from the rooftops.

84 Parade Meeting

Preparations are underway! Important decisions are being made! Be there!

The Parade Committee discusses child care at Celebration site and sets rates for advertising in the Program and for booth space . . . all this Sunday, February 12, from 5 to 7 PM at the Women's Building, 3543 - 18th Street.

Childcare will be provided for this meeting to enable Lesbian and Gay parents to take part in an important discussion about how we make the Parade and the process more accessible to them.

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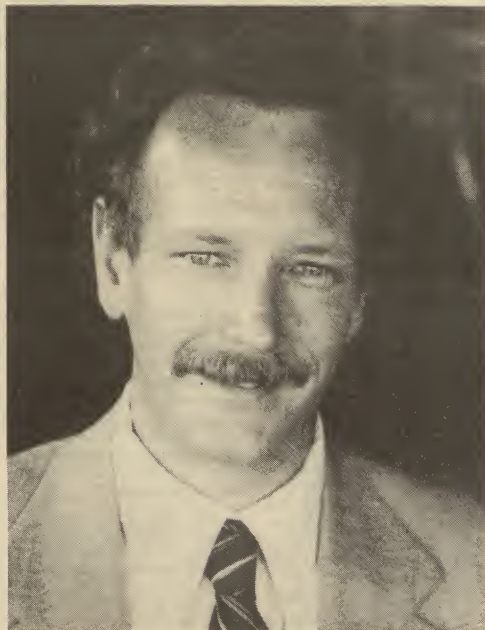
Bacci Announces for 19th AD

Gay and native San Franciscan, Bob Bacci has announced his candidacy for the 19th Assembly District Republican Nomination to be voted upon at the June 5 Primary. Presently no other Republicans have signed up for that race, the winner of which will face Assemblyman Louis J. Papan. Bacci is proud of the fact that he is a long-time Republican having joined the YR's in 1969 while he was still at the University of San Francisco from which he graduated with honors. He thereafter attended USF Law School, passed the state bar examination and after serving in the U.S. Army as a field artilleryman, he began his neighborhood practice of law in San Francisco.

Bacci in addition to practicing law has been an active civic leader in San Francisco. Since 1977 he has been a member of the San Francisco Advisory Committee on the Wastewater Program including serving as the chair of that committee.

Within the Republican Party, Robert Bacci has been a member of the San Francisco County Central Committee since 1982 and is presently the secretary of that organization. He also belongs to Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights and is the immediate past president of that organization.

Bacci has also been the secretary of his merchants association for several years. This is not his first run for office as he according to his statement to the press, made a strong showing in 1982 in a race for the San Fran-



Attorney Bob Bacci — a SF native and businessman from the Avenues challenges Assembly seat. (Photo: Rink)

cisco Community College Board. His campaign was based upon a platform of fiscal moderation and common sense governance of the community college.

This is Bacci's first entry to electoral politics in Northern San Mateo County. However, he is no stranger to the north

county either, as he has been active as past president and zone chairman of Lions Club.

"To bring fiscal responsibility to state government and see that government remains limited in its scope," says Bacci, are his reasons for running for the Assembly. ■

NGRA Wins Aids Settlement

State Will Now Pay for Drugs Use

The California Department of Health Services Medi-Cal program has backed down on its refusal to pay for costs associated with the treatment of certain AIDS patients. Medi-Cal was refusing to pay when people with pneumocystis pneumonia were treated with pentamidine. National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) had threatened the state agency with a lawsuit if they didn't change their policy.

Medi-Cal claimed they could not approve of pentamidine treatment because it was experimental. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, called that claim unfounded. "The Center for Disease Control," he said, "distributes this medication and until a few years ago it was the first drug of choice. It has to be used because many people are allergic to the only other drug available, a sulphur based medication."

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Ex-

ecutive Director, said: "We are committed to insuring that people with AIDS are treated equitably. This case was a total victory for the Gay community."

William A. White, Chief of Medi-Cal Benefits Branch, agreed that "... it is now the position of the Department of Health Services that Medi-Cal benefits include the use of pentamidine." Furthermore, there will be a retroactive review of earlier cases that were not certified for funding.

O'Leary said that the city of San Francisco and the taxpayers were also big winners. "The county hospital, San Francisco General, was picking up the bill on this. Now that the state is paying again the city should get a large rebate and save tens of thousands of dollars."

The National Gay Task Force helped in the case by using their contacts in Washington, DC to put pressure on Medi-Cal. ■

AIDS Reactions Will Be Subject of Planned Book

The Gay Sunshine Press in San Francisco is publishing a book of quotes, feeling journals, and interviews portraying the emotional impact of AIDS. *The Aids Anthology* is inspired by trying and tenacious life stories. The author is a social psychologist with AIDS, and provides resources and coping skills.

Send statements of your emotional experiences with AIDS. Include your occupation, age, city and current health status.

Mail to the author: Lon G. Nungesser, M.A., P.O. Box 5389, Stanford, CA 94305. ■

Parade Committee Needs Volunteers

In a few months the largest Lesbian/Gay event in the world will happen in San Francisco. This year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade falls on June 24, two weeks before the National Democratic Convention.

All of the parade's subcommittees need volunteers and there is a special need in the areas of safety, media and outreach. If you are interested in getting involved call 861-5404 or come to the next general membership meeting, Sunday February 12, 5 PM at the Women's Building, 18th and Valencia. ■

CRIR Sets Game Night

Want a CLUE to a fun-filled evening? Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, which certainly has no MONOPOLY on things like this, announces its first annual (or possibly semi-annual) Game Night, to take place on Thursday, February 16, at 132 Bush Street, starting at 6:30 PM or thereabouts.

"You'll certainly be SORRY if you don't attend," stated social co-chairmen Jeff Harlowe and Mike Sher. "If you go, you'll be CHESS in time for drinks and a lot of fun. There's absolutely no politics involved, no RISK, and you'll have the time of your LIFE!"

Admission is free, games will be provided, and there's a no-host bar. So keep a POKER face, and cross any BRIDGE (possibly with a WHISTful expression) to get to CRIR Game Night.

For information, call Mike Sher at 821-1600 or 753-2999. ■

Planning Set for Demo Convention

The Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance has joined the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club in calling for a national Gay march and rally as the Democratic Convention convenes here in July. L/GLA Co-Chair Howard Wallace cited the expected presence of 14,000 media representatives from around the world as a "golden means of forcing Gay and Lesbian issues into the center of American politics."

The first public meeting to lay plans for a convention action is to be held at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, February 15 at the Women's Building, 3543 - 18th Street. For further information call 431-1522 or 552-4287. ■

Bathers Hold First Convention



Representatives of 29 sex clubs met in New Orleans for the first IGHC Convention.

Owners of Gay health clubs and bathhouses from across the country met in New Orleans January 15-19, for the first annual convention of the Association of Independent Gay Health Clubs (IGHC). Representatives from 28 different clubs participated, including 18 member clubs and 10 observer clubs, in the five day convention that covered topics ranging from national advertising to dealing with the AIDS problem.

The IGHG was formed in mid-1983 by Stan Berg (The Body Works, Indianapolis) under the premise that independently owned Gay health clubs had much to gain by working together in areas of common concern. There are currently 31 member clubs in the organization, including several clubs from Canada.

Perhaps one of the most important, as well as politicized, topics of discussion at the convention had to do with coping with the AIDS problem. Many of the owners expressed concern and even anger about some previous calls for the closing of Gay health clubs due to the AIDS problem. The owners stated that these calls amounted to nothing more than self-righteous finger pointing and scapegoating. "We have to take an enlightened,

responsible, rational position about the AIDS problem as it relates to our businesses and our community," stated Sal Accardi, an owner of The Watergarden in San Jose, CA. With this statement in mind, the IGHG unanimously passed a resolution "Regarding An Objective Response to AIDS".

Much of the convention time was devoted to setting goals and forming a basic structure for the IGHG. This could have proved to be a somewhat difficult task had it not been for the spirit of cooperation that seemed to dominate the entire convention. "I have never in my life seen such a spirit of camaraderie envelop an entire group of Gay businessmen," stated Stan Berg. "It seemed that as the issues became tougher, the harder we worked to develop common solutions."

The primary goal of the IGHG is to foster communication and cooperation between member clubs. This cooperation was initiated through the cross-honoring of each other's club cards and a national advertising campaign which actually began last fall. Future plans of the IGHG call for the recruitment of other independent clubs, possible cooperative purchasing, and the creation of a "Handbook of

Member Clubs" with a full page description and photos of each club. The Handbook is going to press shortly and should be available by Spring 1984.

The IGHG, as its final business for this first convention, elected a Steering Committee and a Managing Director to guide the Association through to its next convention. Stan Berg was elected Managing Director and Chairman of the Steering Committee. Members of the Steering Committee are: Bob Pereida (The Compound, Los Angeles), Terry Johnston (The Pines, Seattle, WA), Sal Accardi (The Watergarden, San Jose, CA), Gene Keuning (The Diplomat Health Club, Grand Rapids, MI), Jack Friel (Backstreet Baths, Philadelphia, PA), and Kevan Goodrich (Midtowne Spas, LA, Denver, New Orleans).

As with most conventions, it seemed that the informal discussions, private networking, and sharing of ideas proved to be the greatest benefit that the club owners received. "I probably learned more about the Gay health club business during this convention," stated Stan Berg, "that I had learned on my own in the entire previous seven years since my business (The Body Works) opened."



IGHC Steering Committee: (l. to r.) Gene Keuning (Diplomat Health Club), Sal Accardi (The Watergarden), Terry Johnston (The Pines), Stan Berg (The Body Works), Rob Pereida (The Compound), Jack Friel (Backstreet Baths), Kevan Goodrich (Midtowne Spas).

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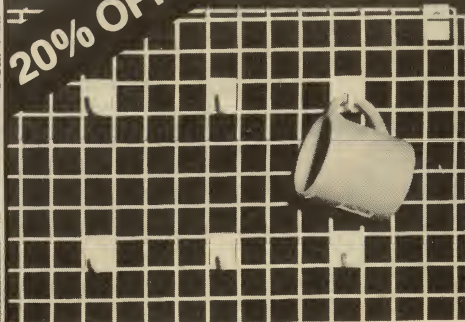
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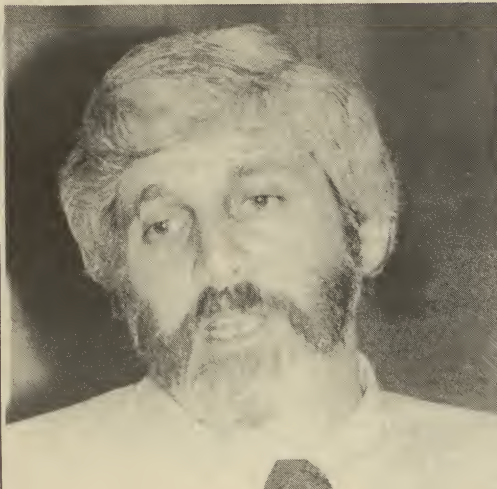
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Sex Practices

(Continued from page 1)



Public Health's Merv Silverman won't close bathhouses. (Photo: Rink)

bers will vigorously resist any attempts by self-serving alarmists to use the public concern about AIDS to accomplish their homophobic political agenda." That statement became part of their resolution. Accordi was not happy with Britt's one brand of quotes to the straight media and another line to his Gay constituency.

Meanwhile, meeting at the same time was the National AIDS/KS Foundation at their headquarters on 10th Street and Mission. Items for debate on their agenda as the expenditure of over \$1700 for new office furniture and gross contributions for the past month of a little over \$150 were lost in the heated debate over the resurfaced closing the baths fuss. Several of the Board's members, including Dr. Marcus Conant, had been quoted in the media.

While there was strong feeling on the part of some, said publisher Bob Ross, to close the baths, no one would make the motion. The board polled itself to establish a consensus that the baths should *not* be closed.

Several Board members left to attend a meeting Harry Britt was next having with Health Department officials. Department of Health Director Mervyn Silverman was already on record that he had no intention of closing the baths. With no impetus from the National Founda-

tion, any closing of the baths interest dissolved.

Meanwhile, waiting in the wings was the report three researchers — Leon McKusick, Bill Horstman, and Arthur Carfangni — had made in November 1983 and which was ready for the media. All sides were waiting to pore over it to find some substantiation for their apprehensions and theories. McKusick had already been quoted and says misused in the press reports.

The same trio had surveyed Gay male sexings and sexual attitudes in March 1983. This time they were under contract to the Department of Health and the findings were delivered at a 10:30 a.m. press conference on Wednesday in the Health Department. 1550 questionnaires were passed out; 806 were returned; a return rate of 42% was claimed. Some questionnaires were handed out to patrons leaving bathhouses and bars. Some came from a mailing list, some came from those answering ads who qualified as not attending baths or bars in the previous two months.

Relationship status was much the same as it was six months ago. All of the respondents knew about AIDS and 94% were knowledgeable about contemporary medical speculation on causes, transmission, and maintaining good health. 95% felt

they accepted readily that today there were sexual hazards they must think about. 73% felt they were dealing with the whole AIDS issue, not avoiding it.

Some could conclude from the responses that the educational work had been done. Actual behavior — if one can deduce from the figures — has varied only slightly since last March. Some people are celibate, some people are monogamous, some people go to the baths, some people go to the parks, and some people have more than ten tricks a month. (This latter abuse must be made to stop . . .)

The day before the McKusick press conference, Harry Britt's office — after his several meetings — issued a press release on what he had accomplished and was planning. The three-page release was titled "Britt Expresses Concern Over Deepening AIDS Crisis."

Britt opened his release with "My concern over the AIDS crisis has deepened in the past two weeks." He referred to the information on Gay men's sex practices as the cause of his upset. He claimed that "people's sense of urgency" about AIDS has gone away. Britt wants it returned.

His Tuesday tone was much less sanguine than his Friday



Supervisor after being labeled in "Close the Baths" camp issues press statement that he too is opposed to bath closure. (Photo: Rink)

mainstream media remarks. As opposed to attacking the Department of Public Health, on Tuesday he praised it with "much good work has been done."

The supervisor said, "A creative and massive campaign is still needed that will reach different groups of Gay men" who haven't changed their lifestyles. Britt felt the propaganda campaign should be handled "by bringing in the best available media talents." His role will be to work with people "to develop a complete set of proposals for a campaign."

These remarks came on the heels of the AIDS/KS campaign to distribute its latest poster "You Can Have Fun" which had run smack into a heap of criticism including a cruel trashing in pundit Herb Caen's column on Tuesday.

Britt concluded that he has no intention at all to introduce legislation to close the baths. However, bathhouse owners "must create places where their customers are safe." He promised he will work with the bath owners "to do everything possible to help them."

At press time, like the combatants in Beirut, some forces were retreating, others were just keeping their heads down, some were advancing, others were regrouping. The matter managed to capture a lot of attention; once again, who rules the AIDS world was at issue. The battle over control and what to do was far from over.



Dr. Marcus Conant, president of the National AIDS/KS Foundation. Consensus of his board is not to close the baths. (Photo: Rink)

P. Lorch

'Gay Games' It Will Be!

(Continued from page 1)

three weeks before the opening of the 1st Gay Olympics — the USOC won its first victory. On that date U.S. District Court Judge Samuel Conti granted the USOC a temporary restraining order in anticipation of a permanent injunction. The USOC had retained one of San Francisco's most prestigious law firms (Pillsbury, Madison, Sutro) to press its claims.

The court action against the Gay Olympics came as a complete surprise to its organizers. Dr. Tom Waddell, president of the nonprofit group, said at the time he had "no idea it was coming." He complained that knowing some of the people on the USOC he understood why they would wait until the last possible moment "when it could hurt the most."

However, Vaughn Taylor, local attorney who obtained the first injunction, maintained there was no homophobia involved in the court suit. He said in August 1982 it was merely a legal action to protect the trademark status of words the federal government had granted to his clients.

In 1978 the U.S. Congress passed the Amateur Sports Act which granted the USOC sole authorization to use the words "Olympic" and "Olympiad." Since then, the only other uses of the words specifically authorized by Congress are for the Special Olympics which were organized for physically and mentally impaired people.

Waddell felt the Gays' use of the word was challenged when others' use wasn't. He complained that there were numerous examples of other sporting and entertainment events successfully using the words without the USOC's interference. The Gay Olympics — soon to be renamed Gay Games — retained Mary Dunlap as their attorney. She has handled the case from the first and currently sits on the '86 Games Board of Directors.

In the first hearing Dunlap argued that the denial of the use

of the term "Olympic" was a violation of free speech rights. She said before U.S. Judge Conti on August 9, 1982, that Congress granted the Olympics Committee exclusive rights to the words to prevent commercialization of the terms but that the Gay Olympics was a non-profit corporation.

She pointed out then that no similar suits had been filed before the August '82 action. She expected relief from the temporary restraining order before a full hearing was scheduled for August 19, 1982 — nine days before the big event at Kezar Stadium. It never happened, and on August 20 the temporary injunction was made permanent by U.S. District Judge Robert Peckham. The order meant that all references to "Gay Olympics" on "literature, souvenirs, advertising, or in production of any theatrical exhibition, athletic performance, competition or event must cease or be deleted."

The Gay Olympics complied and began referring to themselves as the San Francisco Arts & Athletics, Inc. producing the Gay Games. On August 26 the Bay Area Reporter reported that attorney Dunlap had filed an emergency motion to halt or dissolve the injunction. She said, "Basically, we're arguing that the district judge erred in his interpretation of the Amateur Sports Act, which created an infringement on our defendants' constitutional rights."

Judge Peckham noted in his 1982 order that "homosexuals have indeed been the victims of discrimination and bigotry in other contexts," but "it does not follow that they have been singled out for discriminatory enforcement of the Amateur Sports Act in this case."

HOW IT STARTED

Official displeasure with the term Gay Olympics first surfaced in a letter in late December 1981 from F. Don Miller, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee. In

the letter, Miller asked Waddell to stop using the word Olympic and warned him that his committee was entitled "to recover any and all funds which are solicited and acquired by virtue of the usage of Olympic terminology." Miller insisted on a response within ten days.

Waddell wrote back that he was only aware of the word Olympic as a "generic term referring to an event that predated Christ," but requested that permission for use of the word be granted, citing the Armchair Olympics, Special Olympics, and Police Olympics as precedents.

Miller answered back January 6 with the original request to cease and desist, adding that the committee's position had nothing to do with the issue of homosexuality.

The matter remained in limbo until three weeks later when the Gay Olympics Board of Directors announced that they would continue to use the word Olympic. As a result Waddell wrote Miller that the First Amendment guarantees of free speech and association are of higher priority than trespassing on privileged words.

"We have also been advised by legal counsel that there appears to be a violation of the guarantee of equal protection under the law," wrote Waddell. "There is a discriminatory action on the part of the U.S. Olympic Committee which has sanctioned the Junior Olympics and Special Olympics, but has looked the other way on the Armenian Olympics, Xerox Olympics, Crab Cooking Olympics, Diaper Olympics, Rat Olympics, and Dog Olympics, while at the same time takes exception to the term Gay Olympic Games."

Waddell also wrote that his group was willing to take the issue to court if it couldn't be settled amicably between the two bodies. He requested an answer from Miller by February 1. No other word was heard from the Colorado Springs-based committee until the surprise court action Monday, August 9, 1982. With that court action the battle was on, and it has simmered ever since.

To observers, the USOC has won every round. ■

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Law Students Debate "Homo Panic" Defense

(Continued from page 1)

juries, the only ones with which he is familiar.

Public Defender Ron Albers, also speaking for the defense, emphasized that our legal system is an adversary system where neither side is supposed to be fair, but is only supposed to present evidence and arguments on its own side. Defense counsel has the ethical obligation to raise every possible defense on behalf of the accused within the limits of the law.

But it was the audience itself which raised the most serious questions regarding use of the homosexual panic defense. Three different members of the audience charged that the defense in practice was not used to show mitigation or self defense, but was instead used in a blatant attempt to appeal to the homophobic prejudice of the jury. In many cases a public defender defense counsel has placed into evidence lurid details of the dead man's sexual practices hoping that the jury in disgust would find the victim's beating or killing justified. That is precisely what occurred in Sonoma County where a youth brutally killed a Gay man in his Guerneville home before looting and burning the house. Following presentation of a homosexual panic defense a Sonoma

of the victim's sexual advances. In either case sympathetic psychiatric testimony is presented and intimate details about the victim's sexual background and practices are paraded before the jury.

Speaking for the prosecution side of the issue, Bref French asked the audience to consider the social and ethical issues raised by the use of the homosexual panic tactic, and stated that it was only permitted in our criminal justice system because it is socially accepted in our society as an excuse for a crime. She urged passage of legislation limiting use of the defense only to those cases where its relevance has been compellingly shown.

Public Defender Chuck Stolpe, speaking for the defense, feigned ignorance of the whole issue. "I do not know what the homosexual panic defense is," he told the fifty attorneys and law students in attendance. He nonetheless cautioned against any effort to change current practices. Proposed changes to the state's evidence code are an attack on the jury system, he said, and juries are an important protection for Gay people. In subsequent remarks he qualified that statement, saying he was talking about San Francisco

County jury of 12 refused to convict the defendant for the homicide, apparently finding that his actions were justified on the grounds of self defense. Stolpe and Albers both deplored that result as a miscarriage of justice, but argued that it was an aberration and solely the result of the prosecution's incompetence.

A young female Law student pointed out that California law had been changed to protect rape victims from being harassed on the stand and having their past sexual practices dredged up on cross examination. This was necessary because unscrupulous defense attorneys attempted to put the victim on trial rather than her assailant. For similar reasons it was argued that legislation was necessary to curb use of the homosexual panic defense because, it was said, the main thrust of that defense is an irrelevant appeal to the prejudice of the jury against Gays. Another part of the panic defense strategy is to keep Gays and Lesbians off juries.

Senior District Attorney Ken Cady has drafted such legislation, and District Attorney Arlo Smith has submitted it to Assemblyman Agnos with the request that it be introduced in Sacramento. Thus far Agnos has not responded to the request, and an alternate sponsor for the legislation is reportedly being sought. ■

D. Armstrong



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POLITICS AND POKER

Kraus Appointed to Dems' Platform Committee

WAYNE FRIDAY

In what is seen as a major political development for the Gay community, California Democratic Party chair Pete Kelly announced Saturday at the Democratic Party state convention in Oakland the appointment of Gay political activist Bill Kraus to the national Platform Committee of the Democratic Party.

Kraus' appointment was confirmed by the delegates at the state convention the same day. Kraus, an aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton and a former president of the Milk Gay Demo Club, was the only openly Gay person appointed from California to any of the major party committees.

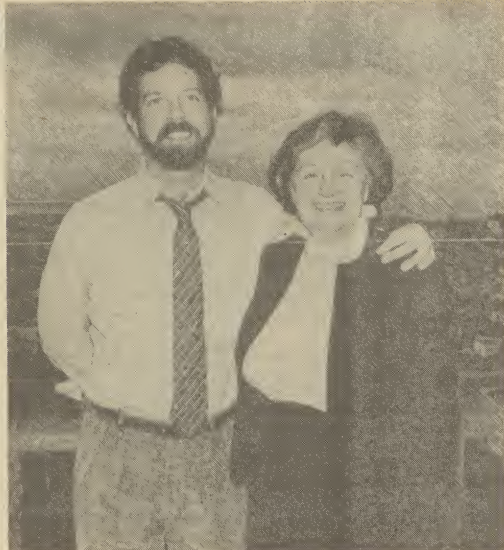
Because the party's national convention will be held in San Francisco this July, the Kraus appointment is seen as particularly important. The Platform Committee, the most important of any of the party's committees, is made up of 150 members from throughout the country, and its main function is to wire the

Democratic Party's platform which will be adopted by the delegates at the July convention. Kraus was also on the same committee at the 1980 Demo convention where he and Ginny Apuzzo (now head of the National Gay Task Force) led the effort and succeeded in getting approval for the first time of a plank favoring Gay rights. "This year the agenda will be to get the platform to commit the party to support absolutely everything that needs to be done about AIDS; that's definitely the priority," Kraus said this week.

Kraus is also committed to work for the support of a federal Gay rights law, for an end to anti-Gay immigration policies, and for other Gay-related issues. "Gay issues will come first; that's why I'm there, but I'm also very interested in coalition with other people. When we say the government needs to spend more on AIDS, we should make it clear that we also oppose Reagan's cuts in things like child

nutrition and his insensitivity to women and minorities," Kraus told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Kraus, who recently returned from El Salvador, also stressed his interest in saying that the U.S. should "get the hell out of there — now." Observers at last weekend's state convention said that Kraus' appointment obviously showed the clout of Gays and Lesbians in the party. State party Gay Caucus co-chairs Carole Migden and Mark Bliefeld of Los Angeles lobbied hard with party officials to assure a Gay person on the platform committee and Bliefeld's lobbying in particular was a key factor to the appointment. "This was no piece of cake," Migden told the *Reporter*; "there was fierce competition for these platform positions right up until the last minute — when you have people like Henry Waxman, Tom Hayden, and Assemblywoman Gwen Moore getting appointed, you know it's an important appointment."



Gay aide Bill Kraus and his boss Rep. Sala Burton.

From the beginning the Gay Caucus co-chairs and their supporters insisted that the Gay community had to be represented on party committees, especially the powerful Platform Committee, and they insisted that Kraus was the person they wanted. "Bill not only has the

experience of having worked successfully on the 1980 platform," Migden said, "but he also is one of the best informed in our community about AIDS because of his work for both Phil and Sala Burton, and that was the critical thing for us. We are elated at his appointment." ■

POLITICS AND PEOPLE

Security Clearance & Gays

WAYNE FRIDAY

Is homosexuality incompatible with security? The *New York Times* carried a feature story last week about Gay men who work directly or indirectly for the Central Intelligence Agency who are fighting in court to challenge longstanding attitudes of intelligence forces toward homosexuality. For years, American intelligence people and the military have used the excuse that Gays were security risks because of their "susceptibility to blackmail," but as homosexuality becomes more and more acceptable (yes, Virginia, I said "acceptable") the issue of blackmail becomes less valid and a number of those victimized, such as San Francisco's Richard Gayer (you remember Gayer and his license

holding sensitive positions. Agency spokesperson Dale Peterson says, predictably, "Foreign intelligence services are known to target for cultivation and exploitation persons known or believed to be practicing adult homosexual behavior. There have been a significant number of espionage cases in which homosexual conduct has been a factor." Mr. Gayer replies that "they are simply tied to the past; they assume that Gays are going to part with secrets at the slightest pressure and that as a class we care less about the welfare and safety of the nation. That's simply not true."

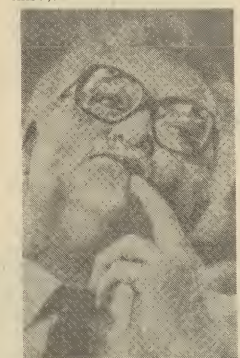
One top CIA official commented last week that "this is one field where the sexual revo-



Marin's Assemblyman Filante will have no Republican change in '84.

year, and the mayor herself and things aren't looking good at all. • Colorado's Representative Pat Schroeder coming off as something of a pompous ass when she addressed the Democrats in Oakland and calling all Republican women candidates mere "wolves in size 10 designer clothing" (and she calls herself a feminist with stupid remarks like that?). • Meanwhile, Jerry Brown attended the convention looking every bit like a candidate for something-or-other while pretending to be boosting the Alan Cranston candidacy. The California Democratic Council, the liberal wing of the state party, will be holding its state convention the first weekend of March at the same hotel, the Hyatt Regency in Oakland. • Local attorney Neil Eisenberg, Northern California chair of the Mondale campaign, is scoring lots of points for effective campaign work. Eisenberg has been working with Linda Post and other Democratic leaders to bring different groups into the Mondale camp and his phone has been ringing a lot lately with people wanting to jump the sinking ships of Glenn and Cranston. • And Jesse Jackson's Northern California headquarters opened over the weekend at 1730 Fillmore amid bickering within his camp over who is running the Northern California efforts for the controversial Jackson (some of his backers are seething that the headquarters is not located in Oakland and there is a fight going on to see who can call the shots in the campaign but Cecil Williams is mum on this one).

City Assessor Sam Duca has been named a member of the U.S. Congressional Advisory Board. • A recent *Chronicle* survey found that Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy is by far the favorite for 1986 nomination to run against George Deukmejian. The poll of state Demo leaders showed McCarthy with a wide margin over L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley. Meanwhile, there is also talk beginning about a Feinstein for Lt. Governor candidacy if Leo does indeed seek the top job, particularly if, as many expect, Ronald Reagan keeps the federal government under the reins of the Republicans for another four years (California's answer to Kentucky's Martha Layne Collins?).



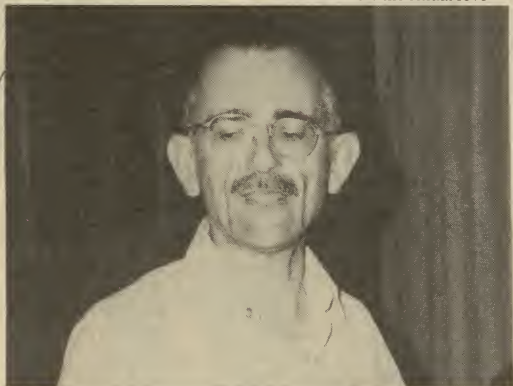
Detroit's mayor eats crow.

Feminist Ginny Foat, talking in the current *US Magazine* about possible women veep contenders, had this to say about our Mayor Dianne, "Feinstein deals well with divergent groups and has put San Francisco on a firm fiscal footing," but adds that "although not a staunch feminist, Feinstein has a good record supporting equal rights for minority groups, but that could be used against her. In our ERA campaign in Oklahoma, the ultra-conservatives showed tapes of Gay marches in San Francisco with the warning, 'This could happen here.'" • People who are supposed to know these things telling me that despite city leaders' hopes for a quiet Democratic convention, some trouble in the streets is expected. The main problems expected from the anti-nuclear

folks (Con Murphy and Mike Hennessey probably wishing they could go to Tahoe for the summer). • Supervisor Jack Molinari working hard against the Guichard scheme to reduce the Board of Supes from the current 11 members to only 7. Although he doesn't seem worried about his own race (polls show he and Kopp at the head of the pack) Molinari says he's genuinely worried about several of his colleagues and this past week alone he met with the leaders of 15 unions urging them to join the fight against Guichard. • And speaking about the supervisors, the fundraising sweepstakes have started early with Molinari leading the pack with an impressive \$83,000 for the last reporting period; Kopp had raised \$38,000 for his "Friends" account; Renne followed with \$34,000; Carol Ruth with \$29,000; and another incumbent up for re-election, Willie Kennedy showed \$22,000. (Britt had yet to report said the *Chronicle*).

Remember when, upon learning that the Demo convention would be held in San Francisco, Detroit Mayor Coleman Young screamed like hell, calling the city "kooksville, pervert city," etc.? Well, the guy should have looked around him at his own hometown; police reports in "Murder City" show that during 1983 reported rapes soared 31.8% (including the rapes of some 50 schoolgirls); homicides climbed 14.9%; robberies were up 8.5%, and assaults were up 9.2%. Mayor Young, unable to do anything about the Detroit upswing in crime, has called in community healers and has

(Continued on next page)



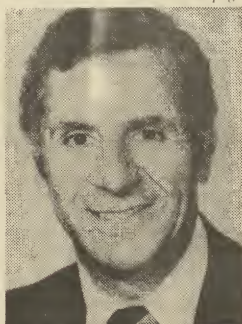
Retired attorney Richard Gayer sues the CIA. (Photo: Rink)

plate fiasco of a few years back) have gone to court to challenge the CIA's position. Similar court action has been taken by John Green, an electrical engineer at the TRW Corp. in L.A. who also lost his security clearance when his sexuality became known.

The CIA, meanwhile, is sticking to its tired old claim that "there is often a rational, legitimate, and demonstrable relationship" to being Gay and

lution hasn't arrived and we hope it never does." Good luck, Mr. Gayer; we have to start somewhere.

Rumors out of City Hall have it that there are bitter disagreements between members of the Mayor's Health Benefits Task Force, set up to deal with Supervisor Britt's controversial and dead domestic partners legislation of yester-



Governor Duke sidesteps on AB-1.

GUEST COLUMN

Medical Issues Laid Out

by James M. Campbell, M.D.: Chairman, Scientific Affairs Committee, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights

After reading S.M. Anderson's article "KS Therapies Kill, Not KS" in the January 18, 1984 B.A.R., I feel that there are several issues that need further clarification:

KS, VIRUS OR CANCER

Kaposi's Sarcoma is neither virus nor cancer in the traditional sense, but is a specific immunological response characterized by proliferation of endothelial cells (lining cells) of lymphatic channels in the lymph nodes, skin, and multiple organs. Some investigators would consider it a cancer or malignancy since this is an uncontrolled multiplication of these endothelial cells. Some but not all Kaposi's lesions have been found to contain cytomegalovirus. However, some AIDS patients with overwhelming infection with cytomegalovirus do not develop Kaposi's Sarcoma. Therefore it is more likely that Kaposi's Sarcoma is a reaction to the putative agent causing AIDS (most likely a virus), in combination with cytomegalovirus and still other innate host defenses. Persons with AIDS who develop Kaposi's Sarcoma are almost exclusively younger homosexual men, whereas intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs seem to develop only opportunistic infections. This leads one to suspect that other co-factors such as cytomegalovirus or sperm exposure may play a role in development of Kaposi's.

CHEMOTHERAPY

Persons with only Kaposi's Sarcoma generally have lesser degrees of immunodeficiency than those presenting with opportunistic infection. Many may do well with no therapy whatsoever. However, in those individuals who have rapidly developing disfiguring Kaposi's lesions, chemotherapy may be the only way to ameliorate the condition although there may be further immunosuppression in-

duced by the natural cause of the disease or the chemotherapy.

VITAMIN C

Many persons with AIDS are taking Vitamin C in large doses, but there is thus far no data to imply that they are doing better than those who are on no therapy.

IMMUNOSTIMULATORS

Likewise interferon has been used in Kaposi's Sarcoma but the data are still inconclusive. The rationale for its use is the fact that it has been effective in reducing viral activity in certain

other viral diseases. Recombinant interleukin II holds some promise because it will correct certain defects in lymphocytes of AIDS blood in vitro (in test tubes) but its efficacy in vivo (living persons) is still unknown.

PARASITES

I agree that parasitic infections should be treated as they may be causing further burden to the immune system. They may be more recalcitrant to treatment in persons with immunodeficiency. It seems unlikely that these parasites are the primary cause of AIDS since they are rarely found in hemophiliacs or babies with AIDS.

In summary, there are several available treatments for AIDS with Kaposi's Sarcoma but all are investigational at this point since the natural history of this disease untreated has not yet been established. Unfortunately, it may take several more years of investigation to make definitive statements as to what the "correct" treatment for AIDS is.

ED NOTE: Doesn't anyone think that the time has come for a tallying-up time on the use of various "promising" therapies? Who has used what? Who has recovered? How many got worse? Who had chemotherapy and is today dead? On whom had interferon no effect? How long does a particular drug, immunostimulator, or radiation, or whatever remain promising? Six months? Three years? A generation?

It seems to us its been a medical profession's free-for-all. It's all relative what clinic one stumbles on, what doctor he happens upon, what hospital he gets delivered to, and who is funding what program with whatever experimental drug company's largesse.

If there's clarification, we think these are the areas that need stabilizing. Redefining definitions that add up to "maybes" put us no further ahead of Stew Anderson — possibly more so behind because they look like definitive evidence that remains beneath the gloss as only another litany of probabilities.

Paul Lorch

Parade Budget Workshop

"Economics and elections spell dire demands for diminishing dollars," says '84 Parade Co-Chair Linda Boyd.

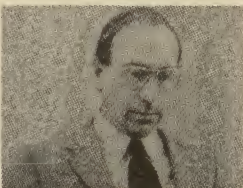
The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee is sponsoring a budget workshop for its own members and members of other non-profit organizations similarly situated. (That's short for "broke.")

Learn to make the most of the most you make. Learn how to set priorities, evaluate the plan as it unfolds, and how to make and switch to alternative plans when necessary. The workshop is facilitated by Judge Kaye and will be held Wednesday, February 15, from 7 to 10 PM at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco. \$3 donation is requested to cover costs.

Please call 861-5404 to RSVP with name and contact number.

(Continued from previous page)

asked them, hands wringing, what to do (maybe our police brass could give him a few tips). • As expected, Massachusetts Rep. Gerry Studds, the country's only acknowledged-by-force Gay congressman, announced via a newsletter to his 10th District constituents that he will indeed be a candidate for re-



Rep. Studds will run again.



Judge Mary Morgan out on Castro Street signing up voters for her campaign sponsors. (Photo: Rink)

election this year.

When asked by Sacramento reporters last week what he would do if AB-1 is passed by the State Senate, Governor Duke sidestepped the question by merely replying, "I don't believe that's gotten to my desk yet; if it reaches my desk, obviously I will make a decision." • Friends of Marin Assemblyman Bill Filante breathing a bit easier — Marin Supervisor Gary Giacomini has announced he will not run against Filante in the GOP primary. • Mayor Dianne Feinstein receiving a standing ovation from the overflow crowd at Saturday night's Cable Car show. • And one of the biggest laughs came at Saturday night's affair when Milk Club president Carole Migden introduced Jose Sarria as "the man who almost came to dinner."

Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign rolling along getting reams of print and loads of TV time, but the Jewish community is definitely not happy about all of that Arab money reaching Jackson's PUSH operations. The Jewish Bulletin, the largest paper of the local Jewish community, had a prominently displayed article on the Jackson-Arab money connection in its latest edition.

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Dear Abby, Am I Too Gay?

by Mike Hippler

"You're too Gay," my stepmother told me the last time I was in Los Angeles. "You write for a Gay newspaper, you work in a Gay restaurant, and you go to a Gay gym. All your friends are Gay. All you ever talk about is Gay this and Gay that. Don't you realize that you are living in a fantasy world, totally isolated from the real world about you? You are losing your ability to relate to that world, Mike. Wake up and smell the coffee."

"That's not true," I replied. "I do have one straight friend. Besides, I'm no more Gay than you are straight and upper-middle class. All your friends are straight, rich people. Everything you do, you do with straight, rich people. When was the last time you set foot outside this suburb? We all confine ourselves to the environment in which we feel most comfortable, Phyllis. Mine is simply different from yours, no better or worse."

So I argued. But inside I felt a little guilty, for much of what Phyllis said was true, and she doesn't even know the half of it. Yes, I write for a Gay newspaper and go to a Gay gym, although I no longer work in a Gay restaurant. I used to have straight friends, lots of them, and I still keep up with those I had, but since moving to San Francisco 99% of my friends are Gay, and, what is worse, 99% of those are male. I bank at Hibernia on 18th and Castro, and I buy my food at Cala Foods. When I want to see a movie, Castro Theatre is always my first choice. If I go to the beach, it's usually Land's End. I drive a car named after Jayne Mansfield. Oscar Wilde is my patron saint.

My apartment is as Gay as it could be. In the living room hang framed posters of Baryshnikov, Nureyev, Christopher Isherwood, and the Gay Olympic Games. The Calvin Klein underwear model faces the Eagle man in the bedroom. In the kitchen, Sister Boom Boom's campaign poster presides. (I did not vote for her, mind you. I just like the poster.) I have a collection of Gay books that would make the owner of the Walt Whitman Bookstore proud. Tchaikovsky records litter the music cabinet. The Gay Engagement Calendar rests near the phone, and in the closet an aqua blue prom dress hangs by my black leather motorcycle jacket. I save everything even remotely Gay — my Scratch 'n' Sniff card from the movie Polyester, The National Enquirer cover featuring a picture of Liberace and his boyfriend, and a collection of sequin and/or lace wedding garters from various female relatives. Oh yes, and what Gay apartment, mine included, would be complete without poppers in the refrigerator?

Everything I do is Gay. I go to the Gay Film Festival, the Gay Rodeo, Gay dance concerts by Falcon Dance Theater, and Gay plays at Theatre Rhinoceros. I attend the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, the Castro Street Fair, and the Harvey Milk Birthday Celebration. I catch Gay comedians at Valencia Rose and Gay cabaret artists at Fanny's or 132 Bush. Once in a while, I even go to Gay bars.

Am I too Gay?

My friend Martha prefers to call it "limited." Every year I write a lengthy Christmas letter to about fifty of my nearest and dearest describing the year's events in merciful, unabashed detail, and this year Martha, who has known me at least since the sixth grade, was kind enough to point out that approximately 80 or 90 percent of the references I made in my letter had to do with matters entirely Gay. "Dad and I read it," she wrote, "but we did not show it to Mother, who truly believes that you are sweet and innocent, and we do our best not to shatter her illusions, as it is tough to be in menopause . . . I realize that you were being entertaining in your newsletter and that it went only to dear friends who love you, know you, and accept

you unequivocally as yourself, no matter what. But please do not lose your objectivity . . . I thought you might be in danger of losing your perspective because you live in and are a major part of a self-contained community in San Francisco."

Martha went on to compare me to her sister, Libby, who is not Gay, but who is nuts for Jeanette McDonald. "You see," she continued, "Libby is a member of the JM Fan Club, which meets annually in L.A. every year. She is almost obsessive on this, as she was with Susan Hayward, then Ginger and Fred, etc. Don't get me wrong, my parents are this way about Judy Garland, and my husband is this way about Sean Connery. I think it's great that this makes Libby happy and that she is going for it. But not everyone in the free world is into JM, and it has become tedious to friends and family when she discusses this long-deceased movie star ad infinitum to ad nauseam . . . Do you get my point? I'm only saying that you presented a very limited viewpoint in your letter. Not everyone is wrapped up on the abuses against homosexuals."

Is she kidding: "Do you get my point?" Do I feel it when I am hit on the head with a sledgehammer? Even my stepmother didn't come on that strong. And Martha isn't the only one. My friend Susan says the same thing, and although I might be tempted to attribute this kind of attitude to homophobia pure and simple with most people, I know it isn't homophobia with them. Susan was practically the first person I ever told I was Gay, the day after I fucked with a man for the first time. She was also a Fag Hag once upon a time, for Christ's sake, and still has an engagement ring from one of her old Gay boyfriends. And Martha — well, Martha was in the theater for years. Need I say more?

After I received Martha's letter, fearing that perhaps I was in danger of losing my perspective on things because I live in San Francisco, I began to think about why I came here in the first place. When I graduated from college ten years ago I had four priorities — (1) live in the mountains and play the part of a Nature Boy, complete with a horse and a dog, the whole bit; (2) teach; (3) move to a big city and be Gay Gay Gay, as Gay as I possibly could; and (4) travel shirtless in Greece, picking olives and ambling over sun-drenched marble ruins. I decided the first two were most important, so I combined them by teaching in the mountains of Virginia for two years. Then I feared that love was passing me by as I tended my garden, so I fled to the big city, to L.A., and there discovered Boy's Town, U.S.A. L.A. gave way to New York; New York gave way to San Francisco. I never did make it to Greece. I wound up in San Francisco and never wanted to leave.

I always knew I'd make it here, to Mecca, eventually. Why? Because being Gay was important to me, and I wanted

to be at the center of things. I wanted to know the people who make things happen, I wanted to be among the best and the brightest, I wanted to have a hand in creating the New World. Most of all, I knew I would be comfortable here. In San Francisco no one would look twice, I thought, if I walked arm in arm with a lover. No one would call me a faggot, and no one would make fun of me if I wanted to go to the ballet rather than to a football game. No one would think I was a borderline transvestite if I said "Oh



"In San Francisco no one would look twice, I thought, if I walked arm in arm with a lover." — Mike Hippler (Photo: Rink)

girl!" from time to time. And people would understand, empathize, and identify with all my very Gay emotions, from heart-break when yet another didn't love me to exhilaration when hundreds of thousands of us marched down the street together. It wasn't exactly as I thought it would be, but it came awfully close.

Exhilaration, yes, that's the word for life in San Francisco. My friend Lionel agreed with me when he remembered his first Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco in 1979: "I'd never been in a place where there were so many other homosexuals in my life. There must have been 400,000 of us. I was overwhelmed. I climbed up on a newsstand at the corner where the parade turned up toward the Civic Center, and it was incredible. I flew back to Houston the next day, packed up my things, and moved out here for good five days later." I felt the same way during my first parade. And my second and my third. Although I now take so much for granted, I still feel that way from time to time, like when I came back from a week's trip to the mountains and noticed that for the first time in days everyone around me was Gay. What a delight that was. Or when I went to the first Moscone party and was surrounded by a sea of surging homosexuals. I hadn't

thought there were that many Gay people in the world, much less in one room.

There are drawbacks to life in the ghetto, of course. Although I always wanted us to create a new world, I'm not sure I like the world we've created very much. It's too much like the old one. Consumerism is rampant, so is the emphasis on youth and beauty. Too many of us devote all our time and energy to the most infantile and pointless of pursuits, drugs and partying, partying and drugs. And sex — well, I'm as obsessed as the rest of my friends, but I do get tired of big dick stories every now and then. Sometimes, when I'm at my gym working hard to look like everyone else, I get so sick of it I nearly scream. "Mary," I think, "let me out of here!" But all of these shortcomings are simply a reflection, perhaps a magnification, of the same faults in American society at large, and we've heard it all before. Boring. Besides, with all our faults, I'd still rather be in this Gay ghetto than elsewhere. And if I were in a lifeboat, and it came to a choice between saving some empty-headed, conformist Gay boy wearing a form-

fitting Dreamgirls T-shirt and Calvin Klein underwear beneath his 501's, struggling to keep his head above water so his hair wouldn't get wet, and almost anyone else who was not Gay, I think I'd save the Gay boy.

But why? Why is being Gay so important to me? I still have not reached the heart of the matter. I still have not answered Phyllis's accusations that I'm too Gay. Goddammit, Phyllis, because it just is important. I'll admit that being Gay has had an inordinate effect on my life. If I had grown up in a world where being Gay was no big deal, just another sexual preference, I'm sure my life would have been completely different. I wouldn't be living in San Francisco, for one thing, and I wouldn't be pouring my heart out as a writer for a Gay paper. There would have been no need to do so. But the fact is that I didn't grow up in such a world. Being Gay is a big deal, and it was not me who made it that way. I didn't put the label on it, after all. Straight people did. They were the ones who called me a faggot. I didn't think of myself as someone Gay. I just wanted to love people of my own sex. I didn't grow up wanting to be part of a separate community. It was straight people who excluded me from theirs, forcing me out.

(Continued on next page)



How Gay should one be living in the Gay Castro, with Gay friends, in Gay pleasure palaces? (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

But I don't expect Phyllis, Martha, or Susan to understand that. I don't expect them to understand that unless we form our own communities, our needs and desires will be ignored. I don't expect them to see that everywhere we look — on TV, in magazines, on the street — we are bombarded by straight this and straight that. When was the last time you ever saw a magazine ad featuring two men living together in the same house or a TV show featuring two women kissing, Martha? When was the last time your bridge club (okay, okay, your encounter group, whatever) welcomed a Lesbian couple or your church admitted a screaming queen? I used to think that when Black separatists in the late 1960's told me I couldn't possibly understand what it was like to be Black, they were full of shit. But now I understand their point of view, and I say to my straight friends, "Don't tell me I'm too Gay. My world is hardly Gay enough."

So does all this make me a separatist? Because I feel the need for a Gay ghetto and enjoy, even prefer, living with those with whom I feel most comfortable, does this make me a radical? There are millions of Gay people, after all, who have never felt the need to migrate to San Francisco, millions who are perfectly content to lead their provincial, possibly closeted lives.

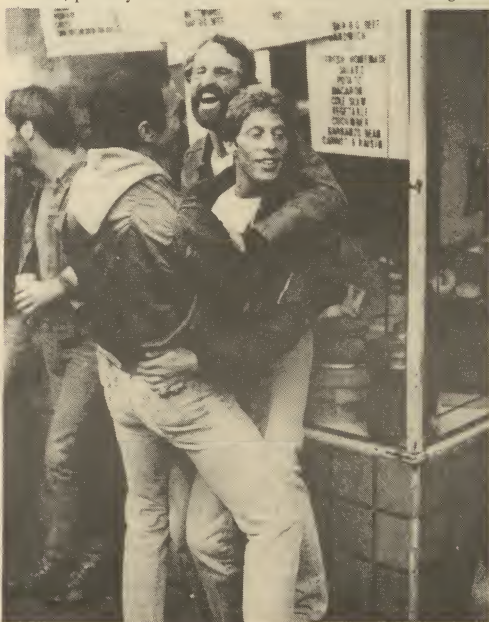
I'll never understand them, I confess. I am a different sort of creature. However, I have not become a different kind of human being entirely because I live in San Francisco. I have not lost my ability to relate to the outside world. I still enjoy my sister's kids; I can still talk about airplanes with my cousin. When my uncle talks about his vacation in England, I care; when a friend describes the new house he bought, I am excited for him. We are moved by the same things, straight people and I — sunsets, Mozart, and plays about love. The things that are important to them are important to me. I still love straight people, I do. So what is this crap about "too Gay?"

A thought occurs to me: will there ever come a time when I no longer feel the need for reinforcement from others like me? Will there ever come a time when I leave Mecca willingly? My friend Randy, who is Gay, left this city. After five years in San Francisco, he returned to the place from whence he came, New Orleans. Listen to him for a while: "Why did I leave San Francisco? Disillusionment. The city is so pregnant with promise, so spectacularly beautiful, so very liberated that I felt, as have many, that just living there would make me happy. And it did — for several years . . . But after a while I began to

feel lonely. I had few friends in San Francisco, and friendship had always been more important to me than anything else . . . The only people I knew were emigres like myself, and the emigre culture was hopelessly one-dimensional. Bodies, drugs, sex, Gay rights, and the price of real estate were the only things of moment. I guess that's why I left. I was lonely, and I wanted to experience and belong to a more traditional and cohesive community . . . Leaving San Francisco was one of the hardest things I ever did, however. Living there spoiled me in many ways . . . Having found paradise, who could be foolish enough to leave it? But there came a time for me when it was no longer important to live in the Gay capital of the world and when I began to realize that the uniqueness of San Francisco was working to limit rather than to expand my consciousness and personal experience." Unlike Randy, I am not limited by San Francisco's "one-dimensional" Gay culture, and I have no desire to leave it. I find it invigorating rather than limiting, but I include his comments just so you will know that there are others of us who agree with my friend Martha. The criticism that many of us are "too Gay" comes not only from outside the community.

I went to the Valencia Rose again last night, and as I listened to comedian Danny Williams talk about his experience in a mental hospital — he was put there for being Gay, not just too Gay but Gay at all — I understood at once why I live in this city, why I immerse myself in the Gay subculture as I do, and I wondered why I was foolish enough to question for one moment whether or not I was too Gay. As Danny made clear, despite the things we share with straight people, we are different from them in many ways. We share a special sense of humor and a unique attitude, perhaps born of oppression, perhaps not, that sets us apart. We share a common bond and a mutual set of experiences that makes us different. And rather than ignore that difference, I celebrate it, and I want to continue celebrating it. When Phyllis, Martha, and Susan accept me wholly and respect my priorities, perhaps then that difference won't mean so much and those priorities will change. But until then I will keep on living in San Francisco, spending mornings on Castro Street, afternoons at the gym, and evenings at Valencia Rose. As Danny would say, "I don't know. Makes sense to me." ■

M. Hippler



"Despite the things we share, with straight people we are different from them in many ways." — Mike Hippler (Photo: Rink)

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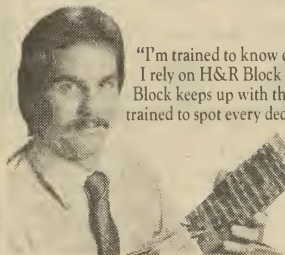


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ON THE JOB: GAY PEOPLE AT WORK

Gays in the Corporations

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.

An Outsider's Five Stages of Corporate Life

Peter K. Krembs is a specialist in management development. After achieving significant success working for the Honeywell Corporation in Minneapolis, he has become an independent consultant to major corporations. His expertise in the human relations aspects of corporations and his experience as a Gay man in the world of big business combine to make him an acute observer of the dynamics of Gay people in the corporate environment.

At a recent convention of the National Association of Business Councils, Krembs led a seminar in which he focused on five stages of development in the corporate life of a homosexual.

STAGE 1 - DENIAL

Finding himself to be different from the majority of those around him, the Gay person's first reaction tends to be to deny that being Gay will make any difference. "My sexual preference has nothing to do with my competence. I'm good at what I do and I don't have to deal with the Gay issue in my work environment." There is a surface validity to this rationalization. The professional self and the personal self are different and can be compartmentalized. The "Gay stuff" is to be dealt with at home; the "work stuff" is separate and kept at the office.

For many people, this denial stage goes on throughout their careers, a lifelong pattern of functional schizophrenia. It is this stage that perpetuates the dark closets of corporate America.

For other people, however, a point is reached in which it is understood that denial will no longer work. The perceptive Gay employee learns that the ability to move up at the corporation is *not* based entirely upon competence. An important part of career advancement is based on how well one develops relationships with those in power around him. The degree to which they look at one in a positive way is a very subjective, but crucially pivotal element in career advancement. Those in power demonstrably tend to favor others just like themselves — White family men.

At this point, some Gays resort to a web of lies or, at best, half-truths in an attempt to pass, to maintain the safety of the closet as they perceive it. Some choose not to lie, but their silence becomes very noticeable.

STAGE 2 - ISOLATION

In stage two, the Gay person has allowed the reality of his situation to penetrate his closet thinking. He feels removed from the mainstream, and he is acutely aware of being different from the others around him. He comes to understand that he is functioning from a frame of reference that is different from theirs. Miscommunication becomes a pitfall.

It is at this stage that those who are able to see alternative courses of action tend to leave corporations and seek other career paths. Those who stay may fall into stage three.

STAGE 3 - VICTIM

This is the most devastating stage into which people fall. They give up their ambitions and play the role that is required of them. They perceive themselves as locked into a situation over which they have no control. They become "stuck" in their

careers and lose any expectation of significant advancement. People in such a position become disengaged, feel a lower level of commitment to their work, and even withdraw from responsibility.

STAGE 4 - SITUATIONAL COPING

In the situational coping stage, the Gay person starts to develop skills in order to solve or, at least, deflect the problems he encounters. He learns to be perceptive concerning in whom it is safe to confide and in whom it is not. He picks up on cues from those around him regarding the extent of their knowledge of his situation and their reactions to it. He builds alliances with members of the majority who are sympathetic to his position.

STAGE 5 - OPPORTUNITY

The opportunity stage comes with recognition that one's disadvantaged position has resulted in deeper understanding and the development of useful skills. Be-

tween these various stages. Some "victims," for example, may develop enough skills to return to a denial phase. The stages, then, are not so much a chronological description as a conceptual summarization of aspects of the experience of Gays in corporations.

Krembs credits Elizabeth Moss Kanter's book, *Men and Women of the Corporation*, for some of his ideas. This important 1977 study focused on the position of women in corporations. It brilliantly describes the patterns of power, how it is wielded, and the effects on the powerless in these organizations. While Kanter sometimes indicates that the patterns she has observed apply to women and others who are different from the White, family men in power, she never once mentions Gays as a class of those to whom many of her observations would apply. Yet, as I read her book, I experienced over and over again confirmation of what my own experience and that of other Gays has been.

An example: "The norms were unmistakable, after a visitor saw enough managers, invariably White and male, with a certain shiny, clean-cut look. The only beards, even after beards became merely daring rather than radical, were the results of vacation-time experiments on camping trips, except (it was said), for a few in Research and Development — 'but we know that scientists do strange things,' a sales manager commented."

Another: "Photographs of wives and children adorned men's offices so commonly that they seemed almost mandatory. Wives were automatically mentioned by name in articles in company newsletters about husbands' accomplishments: 'Joseph Jones lives with his wife, Margaret, and their three child-

Situations can be modified — even corporate arrangements.

ing on the outside forces the individual to look inside the organization, to understand the unwritten rules, the mores of the corporate workplace. Thus, observation skills are learned.

The outsider also is keenly aware that he is in a vulnerable position and learns to play out scenarios of possible future situations — problem anticipation skills. Similarly, vulnerability leads to playing one's cards closer to the vest, caution in sharing information, and more aggressiveness in seeking information. One learns, for example, to start conversations by asking questions. This approach allows one to test the waters, to explore the position of the other before divulging one's own. Krembs labeled these techniques probing skills.

Still another positive product of the Gay's position is the development of empathy. This arises not so much because one is Gay as because one is a member of a minority. To operate in that context, the Gay must learn to put himself in the shoes of the majority in order to understand how they see things. He is almost forced to be sensitized to others' viewpoints.

I wonder if "opportunity" is not somewhat too optimistic a label for the development of these skills. In the corporate environment, opportunity for the ambitious Gay is so circumscribed that these skills serve more in the interest of survival than they do in advancement. Removed from the corporate environment, the Gay may well find these skills to be valuable in other pursuits.

Krembs points out that people can go back and forth be-

ren in Anytown Heights.' Being a 'family man' was a clear sign of stability and maturity and was taken into account in promotion decisions ..."

Kanter comes to some important conclusions which are relevant to all minority groups in the corporate domain:

Discrimination ... emerges as a consequence of organizational pressures as much as individual prejudice ...

The public interest requires a scrutiny of employment practices because of the centrality of organizations as producers of jobs as well as products-jobs that have important individual and social consequences ...

Employment practices that enhance individual welfare and the quality of work life should not be private decisions based on the voluntary good will or 'noblesse oblige' of employers but rather a question of vital social concern to those outside the enterprise ...

Finally, Kanter does provide an optimistic note:

The tragedy ... is balanced by a hopeful vision of the power of outside intervention. Situations can be modified. The net of rewards and constraints can be reweaved. New tools can be provided. The people who are stuck can be offered challenges. The powerless can be given more discretion, more influence over decisions ... Self-perpetuating cycles can be interrupted. The fabric of job relationships can be changed.

While public policy has long since recognized these principles for racial and religious minorities, it only more recently has begun to apply them to women and has hardly dealt with Gays at all.

★ ★ ★

GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMONT

Berkeley

Pacific Center Reaches to Third World Minorities

Gloria Rodriguez Heads New Programs to Broaden Minority Vantage Points

by John Wetzel

"I don't like to use the word *minority*," says Gloria Rodriguez, "because it's not the truth. We are not a minority in the world . . . and I think the word *minority* is sometimes used to treat us as something 'less than.'" She speaks precisely about her community involvements and thoughtfully about identifying what constitutes such absolutes as need, service, and remedy. Gloria Rodriguez has a background in community building and in mental health, and currently serves as Third World Mental Health Coordinator at The Pacific Center for Human Growth. The position had remained vacant for eight months before she took it, and The Pacific Center now hopes its outreach program to Black, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Native American Lesbians and Gays can get off the ground again. If the commitment of Pacific Center's administrative level is any indication, that ripe hope might finally meet fruition.



Embracing Identities. Gloria Rodriguez, the Pacific Center's Third World Mental Health Coordinator. (Photo: M. Brownstein)

Emphases are changing at The Center, says Rodriguez, one indication of which is the increased involvement of women in The Center's activities. One reason The Center has had difficulty in developing its Third World outreach programs in the past has been the community's perception of The Center as a strictly White, Gay male operation. With Rodriguez and her

specialized outreach and counseling programs, however, The Center is approaching Third World mental health from a new vantage point. Current efforts seek to break the isolation Rodriguez says is so prevalent in the lives of many Third World Gays and Lesbians.

"When the programs are set up," she continued, "and progress is made to show the communities that we're doing something about meeting their needs, and that this position I am filling is all about meeting those needs, then it [ethnic minority participation at The Pacific Center] will change."

Unique to Pacific Center Third World services are discussions of mixed heritage. This includes recognizing and assimilating one's bicultural and even multicultural identities. Most Americans need never confront these issues on any but a casual level, and only a few need deal with them to a lesser degree. While many White Gays have largely eliminated isolation as a problem in their lives, it is still as big a problem in Third World communities as it ever was.

Thus far, in group sessions and gatherings, Rodriguez has made it regular practice to cultivate the ethnic experience on equal terms with the experience that brings people to The Pacific Center to start with — the Gay

experience.

"What I'm doing is organizing social events to bring people to The Center." That's not entirely different from what other group organizers do at The Pacific Center, but Rodriguez encourages people to embrace their ethnic identities in all their complexities. "Try to bring your favorite ethnic foods," reads a flyer announcing a potluck for "Gay Men of Color." A "Third World Lesbians/Lesbians of Color" potluck encouraged people to bring poetry to read.

At the end of February, Rodriguez will be holding free peer counselor training sessions. The ten-week training will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9 PM.

Meanwhile, the Third World Lesbians' Support Group meets Wednesdays from 7:45 to 9:30 PM, and the Gay Men of Color Support Group meets on Monday evenings from 6 to 8 PM.

"I see us as beginning to build a community," Rodriguez asserts. "The idea of the community [as it exists] is sometimes a myth. Sometimes we literally find ourselves home alone — that's the kind of isolation I'm referring to."

Rodriguez has set out to help dual-identified Gays and Lesbians to coalesce. "We have to find each other first," she concludes. "There's still a lot of discussion, for example, on just what Third World Gays and Lesbians should be called." ■

East Bay Demos

Studds Honored; Candidates Forum Next

Many members of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club were pleased to attend the successful Human Rights Campaign Fund fundraiser to honor Representative Gerry Studds of Massachusetts, the first openly Gay member of the House of Representatives. "We were quite taken by the congressman's wit, intelligence, and charm," said Armand Boulay, club President, and ex-New Englander. "We hope he will return soon to the land of 'insufficient suffering.'"

Several club officers spoke to a representative of CRIR over recent charges that the Democratic group was "getting all the credit" for the successful lobbying effort for the Oakland Lesbian/Gay Rights Ordinance. "We would have been more than happy to cooperate with any Gay Republicans in the East Bay," related Mary Ann Brownstein, Vice President of the EBL/GDC, "but — where are they? I'm afraid it's not quite our job to organize the Gay Republicans. I suggest they get off their collective tush and realize that there's a there, there." One reason the lobbying effort was so successful, according to Brownstein, was that it was carried on as a nonpartisan effort, and stuck strictly to the



East Bay Gay Demo Club President Armand Boulay and Massachusetts Representative Gerry Studds. (Photo: M. Brownstein).

equal rights issues at hand.

Club members are planning a candidate endorsement meeting for Sunday, February 12, at 7 PM at the West Branch of the Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave., Berkeley, to deal with endorsements for the presidential, congressional, and state offices. Many of the state and congressional candidates have indicated they plan to attend. This will be the opportunity to speak to representatives of the major candidates for President about Lesbian and Gay concerns. All are welcome to attend. Wheelchair access. Call 849-3983 for further information. ■

OAKLAND

Uglies and Edibles

NEZ PAS

Inconcinny! (A "Coyote Ugly" Nose). The creatures on stage were soooo ugly one wanted to chew out his own eyes! Just what occasion brought all of the haridians together? It was the semi-annual (I think) Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant, held at the Lake Lounge, Sunday, January 29. MC's Carlos and Fat Fairy had the gall to bring forth such eyesores as Tanya Tucker Tongue, Ophelia Ovary, Annetta Full-o-Jello, Free to Lay, Sandy Snatch, Candy Come A Lot, and Broom Hilda Big Box! I believe one or two were real women, but don't ask me which ones — I wasn't about to look! Street wear (ugly), swim suits (uglier), and formal attire

(ugliest!) were paraded before the disbelieving gathering, and impromptu entertaining erupted at the drop of a battered eyelash!

Somehow, Ophelia wangled third place; Candy, second; and Annetta, with a "bring your own Mickey Mouse rooting section," was crowned (?) as the new Miss \$1.98!

Manuel gave up his title of Miss Lake Lounge, and bestowed it upon Juan. Owner Fred received a plaque in appreciation of all he has done in support of these kinds of shows and events.

It was not total *spretae injuria formae*, however. The purpose of the event was to raise monies

(Continued on next page)



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Rights Lawyer at Gay Alliance

The United States Supreme Court has agreed to decide a Gay rights case this term. Other major cases dealing with Gay men and Lesbians await rulings in courts throughout the nation. Leonard Graff, legal director of National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), will discuss these cases and their possible effects as part of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford's Winter Speaking Series at 8:30 PM, February 22, at the Old Firehouse on Santa Teresa Street, behind Tressider Union on the Stanford Campus. The event

will be co-sponsored by the Stanford Gay and Lesbian Law Students' Association.

NGRA is a nonprofit, public-interest law firm that engages in legal action for the rights of sexual minorities and is directly involved in many of the pending cases.

The event will be open to the public (regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or Stanford affiliation). For more information, call Stanford Gay and Lesbian Events Tape, (415) 497-1488. ■

AFTER YOU, DEARS

Middle age, if I had my druthers, Should happen first to my ex-lovers.

— Woolly

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Supes Fund Gay Center Legal Services

Supervisor Ed Edelman announced that the L.A. Board of Supervisors has authorized legal services funding for a second year for the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center and Bet Tzedek Legal Services.

"The Legal Services Program provides free legal services to low-income residents of West Hollywood," Edelman said. "This second appropriation of Block Grant funds will assure continuation of the programs through the end of 1984."

This is the second time Edelman has procured legal services funding of \$25,000 for the Gay and Lesbian Center and \$45,000 for Bet Tzedek. "The program assists persons with other legal problems including

consumer complaints, government benefits, landlord-tenant, and other issues," Edelman said.

"When legal problems arise, it is important for everyone to have access to competent legal assistance," Edelman said. ■

Oakland

Gay Rights Ordinance on TV

The new Oakland Lesbian/Gay Rights Ordinance will be the topic of discussion on Channel 6, Viacom Cablevision, on Wednesday, February 15, at 10:30 PM and Friday 17 at midnight. Jud Cohl, host of the program, Love Styles, will interview East Bay activists Kerry Woodward and Joe Acanfora, who are both officers of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic

Club. Acanfora, Club Treasurer, was the coordinator of the recent successful lobbying effort, which resulted in the strongest Gay civil rights law in the state. Woodward, Club Finance Chair, is also the Co-Chair of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the first national Lesbian and Gay political action committee. ■

OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page)

for AIDS Ward 5B at SF General. And raise monies it did, with heaps of thanks to a woman named Terry. She promised the audience that she would match donations dollar for dollar, up to and including \$1,000. Well, \$202.50 was donated; she matched it, and the grand total for the afternoon was well over \$900. I remember hearing Chuck and Carlos saying that they personally would make it an even thousand bucks!

I can't help but wonder if Ward 5B were in Oakland, would San Francisco help as much? Seems that we have it a little more together in that respect!

Folate Lusthood! (A "Raw" Nose?). Later the same evening The Hayward Raw Raahs had a kickoff rally at the Roller Garden in San Leandro. Nothing much happened for some hours, and one was left to the entertainment of drinking, dancing, conversing, cruising, drinking, dancing, waiting in the buffet line, drinking, dancing, etc. Monies from the drinks and raffle tickets will help the Raw Raahs do their tinseltown thing down in Los Angeles.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence 69er Squad performed, as did four of the Bay City Stompers. The latter were the better, judging from all the applause! Some of the original Hayward Cockettes were in attendance, but didn't perform, much to the disappointment of a large segment of the audience.

I couldn't understand why we were blessed with so many new, young faces. Then I realized that people under 21 could be there! As Daddy David was to exclaim ere he drove out of sight, "I'll sure be glad when they're old enough to go to the bars!"

Make no mistake, the Raw Raahs are GOOD! If Oakland's Pom Pons regroup, the competition will really be keen! I'm rarely jealous, but I am truly envious of the esprit de corps that



Tony Valentine (r.) presents the 1984 King and Queen of Hearts Ball on February 25. Valentine escorted a lovely DQ to Coronation '84. (Photo: Rink)

seems to permeate everything that Hayward does! Can the only reason be that the bars are so close to one another? I doubt it!

I did spot two things that irritated the shit out of me! Granted, ashtrays were a premium, but MOST of us managed to use an empty glass or beer can until the aluminum pans were provided. One of the "Sisters" didn't even bother to try to look for a proper receptacle — she smashed out the burning butt right on the carpet! And, one of the new, young faces, who was out on the skating floor itself, squashed his embering butt right on the wooden floor! The contestants for Miss \$1.98 had a right to be ugly. I don't feel that guests at the roller rink were privy to that same privilege!

NEZ'S NOTES

Lady Cathy is back HOME,



Grand Duchess Sable and Grand Duke Ken of San Francisco attended the ACIE Coronation.

on this side of the Bay! (with enlarging breasts, yet!) ... King and Queen of Hearts of All Northern California candidates are now official. Those running for King are Jim Weatherston and Frank Poons (S.F.). Queen of Hearts will be decided among Nova Lei Spears, Tommi Rose (Who?), Billy Souza, and Chris (S.F.). It's a "gotcha," Nova — the K&Q Ball will be the twenty-fifth (25th) of this month! Doors will open at 6 PM at the Rathskeller, 600 Turk Street (at Polk) in San Francisco ... Nova, why were three people miming your pantomiming at the Miss \$1.98 Pageant?

Cha Cha, your number at the Raw Raahs kickoff peed. You deserved better lighting, however! ... Tommi Rose, why are there fingernail scratches all over your portrait that you photographed for me? Why did you use disappearing ink to make your X? ... Craig (Town &

your basket with the best edibles you can think of! What kind of basket? What kind of edibles? That's where your creative juices come in! But remember, your basket and its contents will be auctioned off! All proceeds will go to Ward 5B at SF General. Larry, is it really possible to have this contest in seven cities in five nights? Go for it, hon!

ACIE Emperor V Don is on the planks at the Town & Country! ... Jim, why were you putting awnings on top of the roof of the Bench & Bar? ... Steve F., your moustache is gone! How many knew you even had one? Hey! I'm not that funny looking without mine!

★ ★ ★

Either this life I'm in is very dreamlike, or this dream I'm in is very lifelike! I'll keep smiling until I find out! Love,

Nez

WILD AND WOOLLY

No Host Envy

BOB WOOLHOUSE

A Short Circuit on the Party Circuit

What makes a good party? Attractive guests? Plenty of finger food? Wide open bar with enough ice cubes for the entire weekend? A brief encounter of the lewd kind? And coke, the pause that refreshes?

Regardless of the ingredients, I'm a social underachiever. I tend to take root in a chair adjacent to the dry roasted peanuts and nosh myself into primary salt saturation.

For me a good party depends on whom I meet, and I have my own guidelines there. It's a great evening when I encounter a man whose roommate is thoroughly rotten. But deliver me from the guy whose lover remembers each birthday with one perfect red rose and candlelight dinner at Ivy's (a la carte).

I don't need to meet the stud who has to wear an Industrial Strength jock because being overendowed is such a problem, or the slim sleek number who loses weight every time he goes to the bathroom, even when it's only to brush his teeth.

It's a good party when some hunk, wearing the same thing as I (and looking a helluva lot better in it), spills mustard down the front of his Lacoste; when the belle of the ball has to go home early because his dog is howling so loud that the neighbors called the cops; and when that name-brand decorator admits that he's been nailed by the IRS for an income tax audit.

I can make it through the night as long as I don't bump into God's Gallery of Golden Gays. These are the ones who were born with capped teeth, who actually don't know where the VD Clinic is, and who can

pick up a cute trick on a dark and stormy night in Grand Island, Nebraska.

They thrive on no exercise and junk food, find just the right style, size and color at Wilks Bashford's semi-annual sales, and get glorious suntans in other people's convertibles and swimming pools. They always look 8 years younger than they really are until the age of 35, then they begin to look 12 years younger than they really are.

These guys are great fun, utterly spontaneous and truly delightful. Also without exception, they are extraordinarily depressing.

It makes the evening when somebody starts the rumor that the cruisey man-trap across the room has resurgent herpes of the navel. It adds something to the occasion when the dude with all the answers gets bombed to the tits, turns the color of cheap chablis, attempts the 20 yd. dash to the deck rail, and doesn't make it.

What I don't need is a PhD dissertation by a handsome twink about the disadvantages of physical beauty, or questions like, "Who is that interesting older man over there?" and it happens to be my roommate, who is two years younger than I.

On the way home the other night my interesting older man asked, "Well, did you have a good time?"

"Did I ever?" I enthused. "Paul feels compromised as a \$150 an hour swimwear model for Macy's, Gregory is totally disillusioned since he came out of the closet and nobody noticed, Tony's roommate hasn't cleaned their apartment since the beginning of the Cable Car Renovation Project, and just as Jim put the make on Kenny behind the shower curtain, Harold reached in and turned on the cold water."

Now that was a party! ■

GLAS Sponsors Valentine's Dance at Stanford Firehouse

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford will be sponsoring a Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 11, beginning at 8:30 p.m., in the Old Firehouse on Santa Teresa Street, near Tressider Union on the Stanford campus. A live dj will play current dance hits and light refreshments will be available. A \$2.50 donation will be

requested at the door to help cover expenses and to benefit GLAS's social and educational programs. Everyone is welcome (regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, or Stanford affiliation).

For more information, call the Stanford Gay and Lesbian Events Tape at (415) 497-1488. ■

Ten Punchy Years

The Fruit Punch Collective celebrates the first KPFA Marathon of 1984 with a special highlights edition of its 10th birthday party that was broadcast live from the Valencia Rose Cabaret in San Francisco on June 8, 1983. Featured is a stellar performance by Black-berri along with Lea DeLaria, Jeanine Strobbe, Gwen Avery, Romanovsky & Phillips, Conan, Casselberry-Dupree, Kosmic Ladye, Jason Serinus, James Broughton, Harry Britt "and enough awards and proclamations to keep the Fruits punch-

ing for a second decade," says collective member, David John. The broadcast is from 8:20 to 11 PM on Wednesday, February 15 on KPFA (FM-94). The marathon seeks to enlist new subscribers for the noncommercial, listener supported radio station. ■

DEAR MISS MANNERS

Since it may not be Mother And you don't dig your brother, Can a terrier be Your Significant Other? — Woolly

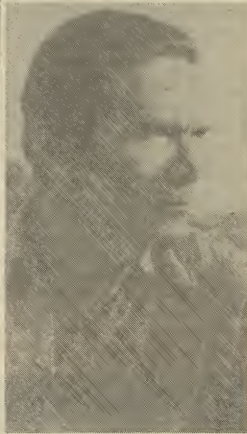
HRC Bias Hearings

"The Gay Life" on KSN, (95 FM), continues its coverage of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission hearings on employment discrimination in Gay businesses, Sunday, February 12, 6 AM. The November, 1983 hearings explored allegations of racial discrimination in the hiring practices of businesses owned or operated by or catering to members of the Lesbian and Gay communities. ■

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Pass the Pasolini, Please

A major retrospective tribute to Pier Paolo Pasolini (1922-1975), the man described by critic Susan Sontag as "indisputably the most remarkable figure to have emerged in Italian arts and letters since the Second World War," will be presented February 8 through March 31 at the University Art Museum's Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley.



Pier Paolo Pasolini

The retrospective includes 21 film screenings, 4 lectures, 2 poetry readings and an exhibition of 36 drawings and paintings by Pasolini.

Pasolini's talents were broad-based; he described himself as a *pasticheur*. For him, the boundaries between artistic media existed only to be transgressed to suit his primary expressive need: to reveal the contradictions and illusions within contemporary society. He "transgressed" boundaries further with his political and sexual preferences. His Marxist tendencies were disliked in Italy, and although the official verdict on his murder has always been that the hustler he hired turned violent, making him a victim of his own predilections, one of the movies to be shown investigates other possibilities.

Similar to Oscar Wilde, Pasolini is becoming better known for his life than his work. The Pacific Film Archives retrospect is an in-depth opportunity to study all angles of the man and his art. Full schedules are available from the Archives, or call 642-1412. ■

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B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Lesbian in the White House

The Kind of Love That Lasts a Lifetime is the Tender Focus of a New Play

by Sue Zemel

The little Mexican restaurant across the street from Theatre Rhinoceros couldn't be a more incongruous spot in which to hear about the love between Eleanor Roosevelt and Lorena Hickock. But author and actress Pat Bond needed a break from rehearsing her new one-woman show about the First Lady and her lover, and repaired to the cantina to talk about the play, which has a surprisingly brief four-day run at the theatre, ending February 11.

Pat Bond:

I've been working on this show for the past two years. It's called *Lorena Hickock and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story*, which I thought was tasteful.

I was very glad to discover that Eleanor was not a saint, that she felt passion, that she loved and was loved. She's one of the most exciting women who ever lived. And Lorena Hickock, who was the first woman to report for the Associated Press, was no slouch either. When I first read Doris Faber's book about the two women, I thought, God, it would be so wonderful to do this story, but that I could never be Eleanor Roosevelt. She was tall and had a Hyde Park accent. Then it dawned on me to do Hick. She was fat and Midwestern, and so am I.

Anyway, I love Hick. I love what she stood for, and that she was a big butch in that era. In that age of 'innocence' no one even suspected Eleanor, although I'm told that within higher echelons they knew, but no one said a word. But then their letters were discovered by Faber. Hickock put a stipulation in her will that the letters were not to be read until ten years after her death, and people wonder why she did that. Did she really want to expose Eleanor like that? Yes, she did. She wanted to prove to the world that this love existed, that it was real. For right or for wrong she did it. And I'm sure glad she did.

When the letters first came out there were disclaimers from the Roosevelt family, and also by Doris Faber, who explained them away as being written in effusive romantic language. Every time she mentions one of the love letters in her book she apologizes for it, and it's very annoying to Lesbians and other intelligent people. Come on! Eleanor says things like, "I want to kiss the northwest corner of your mouth," or "I long to feel your arms around me," or "Whenever I look at your ring I know you must love me or I wouldn't be wearing it."

It's hard to say if Eleanor had relationships with other women. She had two very good friends, Nan Cook and Marion Dickerman, and she knew them ten years before she ever met Hick. They were a Lesbian couple, butch and femme. Eleanor started a business with them at her Valkill cottage, and they had their towels marked with their three initials. Eleanor was working in the Democratic Party to get women the vote long before



The Tie That Bonds. Pat Bond takes on Eleanor Roosevelt and her lover Lorena Hickock in a new one-woman show. (Photo: Rink)

she met Hick. And of course we know who's in those kind of groups — Lesbians! Eleanor had many close Lesbian friends. In Joseph Lasch's book there are pictures that blow your mind. Eleanor and FDR with their sons and 20 dykes! Wouldn't you just love to have taken Eleanor Roosevelt in your arms? Mercy... and go on a honeymoon with her? A first lady couldn't do that now. They'd have Secret Service people with her.

People thought Eleanor was too Victorian to have an affair at all. But the evidence is there. I visited Hyde Park where the Roosevelt letters are and saw Hick's letters, and Eleanor's handwriting on White House stationery, and there are 2,350 of them. Some of them are passionate. Of course, as the relationship got older they weren't as passionate but the women were deeply connected until the end of their lives.

Hick lived in the White House with Eleanor for four years. Isn't that neat? A Lesbian in the White House. The servants all knew. But Hick would never tell anyone. Eleanor said she didn't care who knew. I think FDR knew about the relationship and probably thought it was her business. He was very nice to her friends, they were all together a lot, eating dinner in the White

House, socializing. He loved Hick and was always kidding around with her. He also respected her writing a great deal; Hickock was quite a journalist.

Their relationship did get less intense, but when you've been together for twenty years it's hard to sustain intensity. Eleanor was running all over the world — she was FDR's legs. She was gone. But in a long term relationship it's not as important to be together every minute. When you have such important work to do in the world, you often have to give something up. Hick had a wonderful house in Long Island called the Little House. She had an affair with another woman, Judge Marion Herron. When she told Eleanor about it, Eleanor asked her if she wanted her ring back. Hick almost had a fit. Eleanor was understanding of Hick's need for companionship. She still loved her and I like that quality in Eleanor. I like that quality in Hick, that she found another lover. She must have been sexy.

My problem with all the material about the women was to make it theatrical, but that's what you do if you can write. I find I can't write plays with lots of characters, but I can write one-woman shows. I did Gertrude Stein, and now I'm doing this, which is more of a challenge because Hick was a butch

(Continued on page 28)

Rap Dancing

Blacks, Gays, Machismo and Delights in Alvin Ailey's American Dance Theatre

An Exclusive Interview by "From Fifth Position" Columnist Keith White, January 28, 1984

KW: How do you like San Francisco?

Ailey: I love the city. I spent some very formative years floating around here; before you were born, in 1952 and 1953.

KW: This year is the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre's 25th Anniversary, isn't it?

Ailey: Yes. In the last six months we've been summing up what we've been doing for 25 years. We had a big gala in New York in the end of November and our regular City Center season, and we're back in rehearsal now, for new pieces that we're bringing out here — the beginning of a ten-week tour.

KW: And we're the first city?

Ailey: First city. And the first big stage we can premiere things; so we're putting on a lot of things that we haven't done anywhere before.

KW: What can we expect?

Ailey: Sheer theatrical delight!! *The Stackup* is an extraordinary new ballet, which is going on the first night — a ballet by Talley Beatty. *Suite Otis*, which we're just putting back into the repertoire, is a ballet about Otis Redding by Mr. George Faison. He took it away from us for a couple of years because he said we weren't dancing it well enough! Inside, also to be performed the first night, is a solo for Donna Wood, our leading dancer. *Nightshade* is an interesting work by Ulysses Dove, who went off three years ago to be the associate director of the "experimental group" with the Paris Opera, which does things like Karole Armitage, Douglas Dunn, Lucinda Childs, Laura Dean — all our young "next wave" people. So *Nightshade* is a kind of "next wave" ballet.

KW: What is *Blueshift*?

Ailey: *Blueshift* is a sequel to *The Stackup* by Talley Beatty; a big sort of urban comment with decor by a famous Black painter named Romare Bearden.

KW: I haven't seen *Fontessa and Friends*, but I hear it's a real camp.

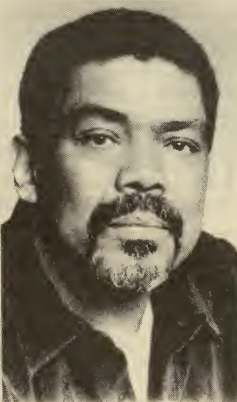
Ailey: High camp. You'll love it.

KW: Don't you have some new ballets in the rep — or some that will be new to us?

Ailey: *Isba* is one; a lovely little fantasy. It's a kind of coming of age ritual, with a moderately Sufi — sort of Moslem feeling, North African, with music by George Winston. *Precipice* is a ballet that I made for the Paris Opera. It's a big work — about a rock star, like Jim Morrison or Jimi Hendrix, kind of

a reflection on the Sixties rock scene. The important thing about *Precipice* is that the production is so big that we could never afford to do it. So we've gotten the decor and costumes from the Paris Opera. Nureyev and his administration have loaned us — and I hope it will be a permanent loan — the costumes and decor for this ballet. It's a big piece.

I loved working for the Paris Opera. But it was strange; 155 dancers divided into three companies — and you're there for life. You come in at 14, and the ladies retire at 40 and the gentlemen at 45, so once you're accepted into the Paris Opera at 14, you are there. You're placed into one of three companies. You're one of the thoroughbreds with the Pavlova feet and those proportions that look great in the corps of Swan Lake, or you're in the group of 50 — which was what I worked with — that does Bejart and Alwin Nikolais and Merce Cunningham — or you're in the experimental group, which is doing Douglas Dunn and Lucinda Childs. The clue to all that is enormous government subsidy. So they put on these evenings of different kinds of ballets. Last year they did an evening with me and Glen Tetley and Andy



Alvin Ailey

DeGroat — for ten performances and then the ballets are put away. Finished.

KW: That's simply unthinkable, given the American situation.

Ailey: Exactly. We could never have produced a ballet with 50 costumes, which is what *Precipice* needs. But we have traditionally, as Americans, done it without money. We started years ago by picking up costumes for *Revelations* and *Blues Suite* from the Salvation

(Continued on page 34)

Past and Present Tense



Gowned and glamorous — but what else is new? — Sylvester delivered two concerts last Saturday at the Castro Theatre. He sang gloriously and pulled the crowd to its feet repeatedly — so what else is new?

What wasn't new was the material. Billed as "A Ten Year Retrospective," the star's gut-wrenching wail fulfilled with "Stormy Weather" but nothing else from his early years. His nod to his first records skipped "Blackbird," "Steel Yard Blues" and the wonderful original tunes from those Blue Thumb albums, to offer one tune rearranged to disco beat. It quickly led to a medley of his later disco hits, all well-known, loved and not so fab in a concert setting. Perfect for the Grammy Awards — slick, professional, and keyed to record sales.

I loved the show's production — large orchestra and full sound. I love Sylvester. I would have loved to hear something other than 12" singles.

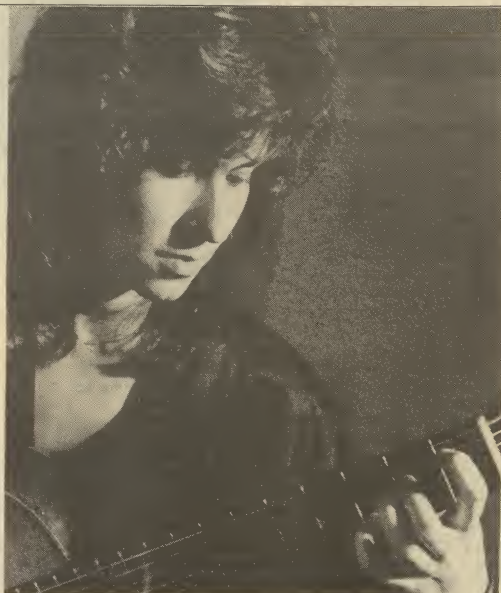
However slightly, the concert was retrospect, musically, it was retrograde. A concert should be the star's Stand Up and Sing, not the audience's Stand Up and Dance. (Photo: Rink)

John F. Karr

Sharon Isbin, winner of three of the world's major guitar competitions, will be the featured soloist with the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic on Friday, March 9, 9 PM at First Congregational Church, Dana & Durant in Berkeley. In her first Bay Area appearance, Ms. Isbin will perform the *Concerto de Aranjuez* by Joaquin Rodrigo.

Sharon Isbin received the first prize in the Guitar '75 International Competition in Toronto, and soon after became the first American guitarist to win the Munich International Competition (1976) and the Queen Sofia Competition in Madrid (1979). The March 9 program also includes works by Thea Musgrave and Germaine Tailleferre, conducted by 1983-84 season principal guest conductor Jeanine Wagar and the West Coast Premiere of a chamber concerto by Anna Amalie, conducted by Music Director Elizabeth Minn.

Tickets are \$8.50 at BASS or at the door. Childcare: wheelchair accessible; and ticket discounts for seniors, disabled and children under 12. For ticket information: 626-4888.



Wilson in Concert

The Valencia Rose announces three concerts by Minneapolis-based Gay songwriter Tom Wilson Weinberg in February.

Tom Wilson Weinberg is one of only a handful of openly Gay male songwriters recording today. His albums, *The Gay Name Game* and *Tom Wilson: All-American Boy*, have received highly favorable reviews in the national Gay press. His satiric material, nasal vocal delivery, and piano accompaniment place his performances firmly in the theatrical, show-tune tradition, in contrast to the folk or light rock modes favored by most other Gay singer-songwriters. Favorably compared to Tom Lehrer or Randy Newman, Weinberg uses his songs as vehicles for his incisive and witty commentary on Gay life in a non-Gay world. He has a singular ability to sustain irony, explode expectations, and hit close to home with his humorous compositions.

He'll perform at the Valencia Rose on Sunday, February 19; Tuesday, February 21; and Wednesday, February 22, at 8 PM. Tickets are \$5. Comic Danny Williams will open the show for the Sunday and Wednesday performances. For reservations: 863-3863.

Cabaret Dates

★ ★ ★

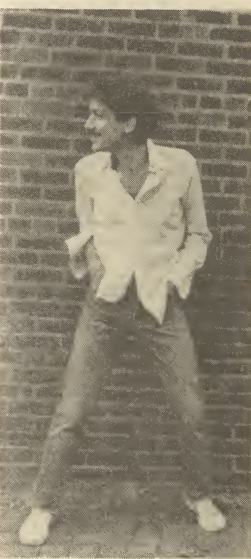
Valencia Rose. Swingshift, an all-women jazz band, Friday 10 at 8 PM, \$4. Femprov with Marga Gomez at 10 PM, \$5. Balm in Gilead at midnight, Fridays and Saturdays throughout February; \$6, 863-3863.

★ ★ ★

Saturday 11 includes *The Vocal Minority* in a Valentine Concert, 8 PM, \$5, followed by *Gay Comedy Night* with emcee Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel at 10 PM, \$5.

★ ★ ★

Fannys. Smooth singer Reginald McDonald shares a bill with Kris Cannon at 8:30 and 10 PM on Sunday 12, \$4. Kevin Ross with Joyce Imbisi on piano each Wednesday in February at 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5. Teed Rockwell each Tuesday, 5:30 and 7 PM, free. David Reighn's Valentine Request Show, February 14 at 8:30 and 10 PM, 621-5570.



Valentine Party for the Left

Red Hearts, a social group of Gay men on the left, will hold a Valentine's Weekend potluck on Sunday, February 12, 7 PM, at 269 Coleridge Avenue (near 29th

and Mission).

Between 25 and 30 men usually show up for these evenings of food, drink and conversation. At least half of those who

attend are newcomers to the organization, so don't be shy.

Bring food or drink for six. Call 552-4950 for directions or more information.

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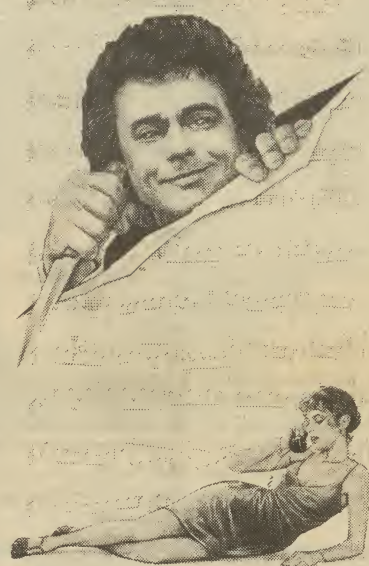
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STAGE

Track Marks

by Bernard Spunberg

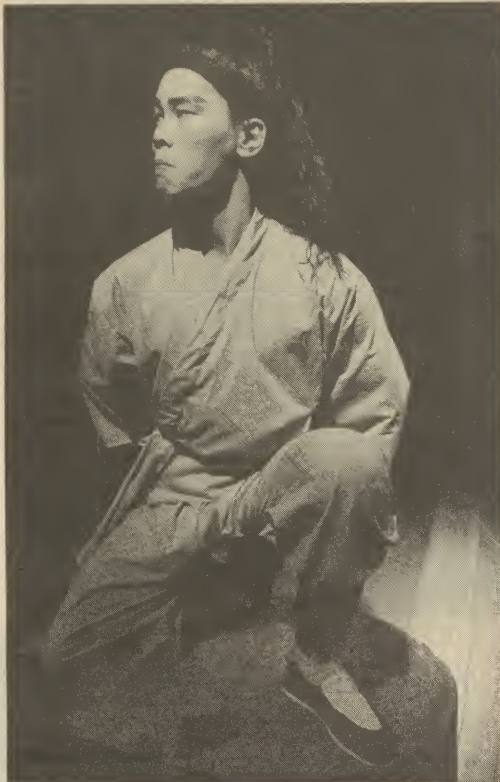
Masculine vigor heightens the Asian American Theatre Company's production of David Henry Hwang's one-act drama, *The Dance and the Railroad*. Actors A.M. Lai and Dennis Dun comprise the entire cast, portraying Chinese workers striking against unbearable conditions suffered in the construction of the first transcontinental railroad.

Playwright Hwang conveys multiple themes within a compact structure. Lai, dancing and speaking with the conviction of a passionate young artist, is above the politics of the strike. He isolates himself to refine his dancing without a care for his eccentric reputation among his peers.

Spying on Lai's solitary practice, Dun forms a strong, though temporary, attraction to Lai and his work. Dun captures the boyish enthusiasm of an adolescent too in love with all of life to make a lasting commitment to art.

The conflict between artist and dilettante is set within a portrait of an abused, exploited minority determined to maintain its identity. Moving from trust to doubt to cynicism, Hwang's characters express the power of self-discipline and proud cultural identification over deadening oppression.

The dynamics of male bonding provide an emotional context for Hwang's statements on art and culture. Initially aloof, Lai warms to Dun's irrepressibility and shares the rudiments of his



May I Cut In? A.M. Lai's solitary dancing (above) intrigues a friend and forms the basis of an intense friendship in *The Dance and the Railroad*. (Photo: B. Hsiang)

a style of movement erotic in its blend of sensitivity and athleticism.

Intense male friendship and erotic dance provide an emotional context for the portrait of an abused minority in *The Dance and the Railroad*.

art. Director Judith Nihei and choreographer Tzi Ma provide

Playwright Hwang's attempt to convey content through a

union of speech and dance is not entirely happy, and certain passages suffer from stilted artificiality. In general, however, *The Dance and the Railroad* successfully communicates weighty thematic content by means of a tale of intense male friendship born of circumstance and need.

The Dance and the Railroad
Asian American Theatre Company
(at Fort Mason)
Through February 26; 566-1605

Chekhov in a Fifth Floor Walkup

by John F. Karr

The chance to live out a fairy tale can be yours for a BART ride to Berkeley. Two weeks ago the *Chronicle's* "Datebook" cast the Berkeley Repertory Theatre as the Bay Area's neglected orphan company by trumpeting "Blockbuster Week in S.F. Theatre." True, they had that "S.F." qualifier. But the Rep opened its production of one of America's most famed — yet unseen — plays the same week that the Curran, the Geary, the Alcazar,

the Marine's Memorial, and the New Performance Gallery opened shows of far more questionable repute (excepting ACT's Shakespeare) than the Rep's Odets classic, *Awake and Sing!*

I don't know why the Berkeley company isn't more renowned, for their production standard is high. I've seen the other plays (excepting ACT's Shakespeare), and were my notepad a glass slipper, I'd slide it with relief and joy onto the Rep, truly the Cinderella of a theatre blitzed month.



Melodramatic Music. Caruso sings of paradise on earth, and Moe (Tony Amendola) and Hennie (Kimberly King) find the pursuit of love pebbly in *Awake and Sing!* (Photo: K. Friedman)

What a discovery *Awake and Sing!* is, and what a lovely production Joy Carlin has directed in Berkeley. She's blessed with a marvelous set and excellent cast, headed by Suzanne Shepherd. Ms. Shepherd studied with Sanford Meisner, whose appearance in the original 1935 production of the play brings the Berkeley Rep's full circle to its source — the Group Theatre. With Stella Adler, John Garfield, Frances Farmer, Morris Carnovsky, Luther Adler, Lee Strasberg, and Harold Clurman, the Group presented plays of contemporary themes and political bent. In the ostensible story of *Awake and Sing!*, the Berger family's attempt to ride out the Depression, we have the transmutation of Odets' political beliefs into a potboiler that rivals *Dynasty* for the twists and turns of intertwined lives.

Within five minutes of the opening, we find a daughter illegitimately pregnant, a son whose maturation is blocked by a dominating mother, an illicit romance, schemes for financial gain, a sexual opportunist, and a Marxist grandfather whose recording of Caruso singing "Oh, Paradiso" coats the proceedings with irony and hope.

Melodrama? You bet. Similar to ACT's John Gabriel Borkman. But where that company has accentuated the melodrama at each step, reducing the characters to mouthpieces for the author, the Rep has deftly created real life — the smell, taste, and sight of genteel poverty ooze in the teeming tene-

(Continued on next page)

STAGE

Good Neighbor Casserole

by Bernard Spunberg

Just be grateful you don't live in Tuna, Texas! Greater Tuna, referring to the area within the range of 275-watt radio station OKKK, is a day in the life of Texas' third smallest town. With director Ed Howard, actors Jaston Williams and Joe Sears have created a world of ignorance and bigotry that would repel if it did not tickle. And that's just why the play works; it's funny and affectionate, but it's honest.

Take Bertha Bumiller. Joe Sears, all done up in a lime green pantsuit in preparation for an interview with *Intellect* ("We don't have none of that in Tuna") *Magazine*, makes us fall in love with Bertha. Devoted to her family, she lovingly whumps up a breakfast of hash browns, biscuits with gravy, and other assorted fatty carbohydrates. When Bertha tells the interviewer from *Intellect* that her singing in church choir justifies her participation on the local book banning committee, we

know she isn't evil. She's just ignorant.

Now take Bertha's sister, Pearl, also played by Sears. She's exceptional. She really is evil. Not comfortable without a little strychnine in the house, Pearl lives to kill dogs with spiked biscuits. She's crafty, too. When her husband's \$2,000 bird dog slurps up a biscuit intended for a poodle, Aunt Pearl coerces a nephew into staging an innocent little accident.

Played by Jaston Williams, that nephew is the town hippie. The cops hate him and everybody distrusts him for his sandals and stringy hair — if they only knew what he's really done! Williams also plays a little puppy-collecting boy as well as a frustrated teenager girl. No matter what she does, poor Charlene will simply never make cheerleader. She's just too homely.

Sears and Williams each play ten characters finely differentiated by characteristic walks, gestures, accents, and inflections. Their microscopically detailed portraits are almost sufficient to hide the fact that *Greater Tuna* is a cast of characters in search of a play. Oh, there's a loose plot of sorts, but the characters neither grow nor change. Thematic content is nil. But that's okay. The play's creators seem to say, "Here is a world we know and love. We hope you will, too." And just because they do, we do. ■



Honest Tickle. Jaston Williams (l.) and Joe Sears play all the residents of Greater Tuna, Texas — women and children as well as men.

Greater Tuna
Marines Memorial Theatre
Through February 26; 771-6900

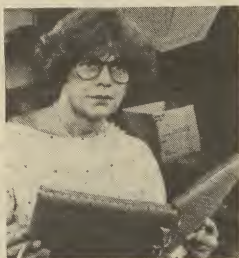
Non-Sense

by Steve Warren

The theatre, like the church, is in the miracle business. It's going to take a whopper to save *A Sense of Humor*, the new play by Ernest Thompson, whose *On Golden Pond* is looking more and more like a fluke. On opening night at the Curran, scheduled to be the third and final stop before Broadway previews begin in March, the first act of *A Sense of Humor* was deadlier than Jesus when they took him down from the cross — and with far less hope of resurrection.

Estelle Parsons and Jack Lemmon are introduced as Liz and Dick Dale. Their daughter and the man she lived with killed themselves six months before, and the bereaved parents have just gotten to the point where they can collect her things from the house she lived in. Liz cries herself to sleep every night and wants to leave Dick, "a fucked-up A & P manager" with a foul mouth and a violent temper.

The funny thing is, Parsons played a character similar to Lemmon's in the marvelous *Miss Margarita's Way*, which was at Zellerbach for a one-



Abused Wife. Estelle Parsons doesn't laugh easily in *A Sense of Humor*. Her lines may be glib, her situation isn't.

nighter a few years ago; but here, on the receiving end of the verbal abuse, she seems to have nothing to do. Dick tries to be jovial for the first few minutes (his dialogue is light but, alas, not funny), which is completely at odds with everything we learn about him later but makes Lemmon's role seem more of a tour de force.

The play is about a family crisis. In many families the coming out of a Gay child evokes as strong a reaction as the suicide does here, including the "Where did we go wrong?" and trading blame syndromes. Imagine that the daughter is a Lesbian rather than a corpse and you may find

more to relate to in *A Sense of Humor*.

Clifton James enters about midway in the first act, playing the daughter's landlord, an ex-football player still known as "Tarzan." His performance can't be fully appreciated until late in the play when the key to his character is revealed, a twist that's been used before but is still effective. He serves as another target for Lemmon, who would be more likable if his lines were amusing rather than just cruel.

Early in the second act the needed miracle almost happens with the entrance of Polly Holliday as Tarzan's mate — sorry, wife. A semi-professional comforter, she tries to console Liz with her philosophy about dealing with grief: "Face it. Embrace it. Erase it." As Liz listens just to humor this sincere madwoman, she finds some of her ravings making sense; but Liz's ambivalence seems motivated more by easy laughs than by anything in her character. Unfortunately, this is just about the only scene in which Parsons has any impact at all. It's a tremendously disappointing performance by an actress who can be wonderful.

If playwright Thompson can turn Dick Dale into a believable, sympathetic character, Lemmon shows that he is capable of playing him brilliantly; he's already there but the script isn't. Parsons needs a new grasp on her character (or better yet a new character) to be able to play her at all. James is basically okay and Holliday in better shape than anyone else.

Thompson needs to solidify the second act and write a new first act to lead into it — all within a month — for *A Sense of Humor* to have a chance at moderate Broadway success. I believe in miracles, but I would not bet money on this one. ■

Awake and Sing!
Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Through February 26; 845-4700

A Sense of Humor
Curran Theatre
Through February 26; 673-4400



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Serendipity

PHILIP CAMPBELL

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SAVAGE IRONY

Recently, I was amused to note an exceptionally gushy review of the San Francisco Symphony's handling of the Mahler Ninth by one of our most august and, heretofore, stern local critics of Edo de Waart.

The glowing praise was richly deserved. What a shame that it comes so close to the end of the "fleeing Dutchman's" tenure here. Of course, it's better late than never to acknowledge the obvious upgrading of our symphonic forces. For those of us who knew this while the Maestro regularly faced harsh reviews in the dailies, it's a kick to say, "I told you so."

As for de Waart's treatment of the monstrously problematical Ninth, I can only imagine how fiendishly difficult it must be to perform for it is hard enough to describe in prose.

An overview of Mahler's intentions must allow for the composer's seeming incongruities and still manage to chart a course that navigates the treacherously conflicting emotions that violently twist and turn their way to a profoundly serene conclusion.

Many conductors have met their Waterloo trying to make logic of this titanic score, but Edo de Waart, in his quietly masterful way, has managed to show me what no other could. His understanding of Gustav Mahler's greatest masterpiece

has enabled me to understand.

Carlo Maria Giulini and the Berlin Philharmonic come very close on disc and Leonard Bernstein's theatrics make persuasive inroads on film with the Vienna Philharmonic. When the usually competent Los Angeles Philharmonic visited, under the limp baton of Andrew Davis, the results were unintelligible.

Like Dorothy, back from Oz, I think a lot of folks were amazed to find out that the answer was at home all the time.

In response to de Waart's brilliant vision, the Symphony played with a kind of passion and finesse that I, frankly, didn't know they were capable of. The aching pathos of the strings and the miraculous combination of flawless intonation and genuine involvement by the horns captured all the anger, agony, and bitter irony of Mahler's testament.

It's rather pointless to say much more. Railing on, in the same feverish vein as my previously mentioned colleague, can't really convey the wonder of hearing a favorite composer so nobly served.

I went to Davies Hall hoping for the best and came away inspired by a glimpse of genius.

LIGHTEN UP, WILL 'YA?

I wish I could report that my afternoon spent with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus at their annual musicale had the



Conductor George Vance in rehearsal.

PAT BOND

(Continued from page 24)

and I'm not like her at all.

The play begins with Hick talking to the audience and acknowledging her love for Eleanor. It looks back at their meeting and focuses on their relationship. They went on a honeymoon when FDR had been in office for six months.

I'm booked at Rhino for only one weekend, and then I'd like to tour the play, like I did with the Stein show. I'm sure there are people who won't touch it with a barge pole, but Gay groups will, and that's my audi-

ence. I'm comfortable with straight audiences, but with this piece especially, because it gets so tender, I want Lesbians out there with me to hear this.

I'm not particularly worried about being sued for libel. This month *Esquire* magazine published a feature about 50 people who have changed the world, and Eleanor is one of them. They quote from one of the love letters, and acknowledge the relationship between her and Hick. Eleanor is a public figure, and there are all those letters in Hyde Park.

I tried to do the story well, so that her family wouldn't be em-

same effect of inspiration. The event was eagerly anticipated and the results were, by no means, shabby. It was a disappointment, though.

New director, Vance George certainly has the right credentials and the extra advantage of succeeding Margaret Hillis. Her stay was brief but highly productive. There are those who still lament the departure of popular favorite Louis Magor, but few who will deny that things were slipping under his tutelage.

Ms. Hillis cleaned up the screechy upper reaches of the soprano section and put some polish back on diction and foreign pronunciation. She also gave an already superior aggregation a quality of seamless excellence that was rapidly fraying.

Enter Mr. George, who judging from his taste in programming, must be a man of sense and sensibility, and we should have enjoyed an extraordinary matinee.

Only one vital ingredient was missing. The afternoon was utterly devoid of humor.

What we got, with the glaring exception of Lutoslawski's "Three Poems of Henri Michaux" (superbly done), was an example of very conventional concertising.

Space doesn't permit an in depth analysis; suffice it to say that Brahms and Schubert were well served and abundantly. The first half of the program was devoted to Bruckner's Mass No. 2, which has its share of loveliness and a fair amount of monotony.

Not a word of English was uttered, nor was there an encore, bringing grief to the crowd obviously hungry to show their support of their friends on stage.

The sense of family and dedication so apparent among the choristers is a joy to behold. They also sound as good as one might hope. If Vance George can only loosen things up a big next year's concert should be a knockout. ■

February 15-17 at Davies Hall: Herbert Blomstedt conducts Schubert's "Unfinished" and Beethoven's Fifth Symphonies plus Berg's Violin Concerto with Gidon Kremer, soloist.

barrased. I look at her picture every day and think, "God, Eleanor, I hope you're not mad at me. I'm not doing this to hurt you or your family. I'm doing it out of real love." I didn't want to exploit the physical relationship between Eleanor and Hick. Sex is sex, it comes and goes, but the kind of love that lasts a lifetime, well, not many of us ever have that, really. ■

S. Zemel

Pat Bond performs Lorena Hickock and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story at Theatre Rhinoceros through Saturday, February 11. Reservations: 861-5079.

good old Jerry. Some of his fellow travelers also contribute their profound thoughts about America. This is a somewhat random collection of cartoons, photographs, quotes and commentary, all blended together for fifty pages of casual browsing.

For example you will discover, "How Baptists Assessed Hitler," by William Loyd Allen, a two page item which claims that a number of America Baptists in the nineteen Thirties rather liked the way Hitler handled things in Germany. You have enough cannon fodder for a screaming match right there!

This is a useful little scrap book that might come in handy when writing term papers on Jerry Falwell or the New Right. The quotes could go on and on. ■

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THURS. & SUN.

Jerry & Abe

FRIDAY

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BOOK RACK

Falwell for Fodder

Quotations from Chairman Falwell and Cohorts

By Paul R. Johnson

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by Frank Howell

Jerry Falwell has been rather quiet lately but he always waits in the wings ready to spring again. He currently experiences financial problems and has stated that he fears a backlash. Some congressmen now say they ignore his letters and his attempts to censor books in the public libraries has also backfired. The Moral Majority has been forced to re-program

their agenda and accent the positive. Now the emphasis is different. Put Conservative books into libraries rather than remove those volumes that are unchristian. Perhaps Brother Falwell will finally go the way of Anita Bryant.

Dr. Paul Johnson has put together a rather scissors and paste arrangement of sayings and thoughts expounded by

FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

And The Ship Sails On

Love Boat

In his best film in over ten years, Federico Fellini has created a rich Italian pastry of a film that is as light as an operetta with no sacrifice in wry observations about the human condition and political realities.

And *The Ship Sails On* merges *Grand Hotel* with *Ship of Fools* with its cast of richly detailed characters and social situations aboard a Mediterranean luxury liner sailing on the very eve of WWI.

A group of artists and patrons has gathered on the *S.S. Gloria N.* for the last rites of a renowned prima donna (played in silent cameo by British actress Janet Suzman, whose regal features give evermore credibility) who has willed that her ashes be scattered on the Adriatic Sea.

British actor Freddie Jones plays an Italian journalist — and our narrator-tourguide — in the film which begins as a sepia-toned newsreel and gradually comes to "life." The film within a film within a film, as it were, exudes a *fin de siècle* charm aided and abetted by humorously apropos music by Verdi, Tchaikovsky and others.

Who comes to pay homage to the lost diva but a group of affected artists from the opera world, a Pavarotti-style tenor with an ego as big as his whale-sized stomach; a temperamental soprano trying to rise above the shadow of the silenced diva; various know-it-all conductors and voice instructors; a German duke; and a lovesick rhinoceros.

But when the Albanian Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated and war is declared, the ship filled with highbrow aristocracy becomes a refuge for Albanian peasants. The political realities rush in willy-nilly, forcing the apolitical status quo out of their overindulgent stupor.

Fellini has fashioned this ship into a life in microcosm, the haves and the have nots, the art-blinded aesthetes, and the hardened militaristic power seekers.

Above the undogmatic social commentary that Fellini can (and does) make in words and sometimes just in visuals, there is the high comedy of the opera and its habits and practitioners. Although you don't have to know much about it, it helps if you appreciate it.

The elaborate theatrical stylized set of the ocean liner and the sea, like the liner in *Amarcord*, gives a surrealist jocular atmosphere to a truly rewarding cinematic voyage.

(Four Star) M. Lasky



Slightly Surreal Musical. Artists and patrons gather aboard a liner for the last rites of an opera diva, which nearly becomes their last rites when WWI begins while they're at sea.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, February 9: (York) Performance. A gangster hides in pansexual Mick Jagger's apartment and undergoes a pansexual change. With *Clockwork Orange*.

Friday, February 10: (Strand) An American Werewolf in London. A young man sees visions of the dead male friend he loved and finds he be-

comes a werewolf every time he attempts sex with women. Sufficient yummy male nudity and a Freudian goldmine.

Wednesday, February 15: (York) The Hunger and The Man Who Fell to Earth. Erstwhile Gay superstar David Bowie plays straight while his co-stars play Gay in these films. *Hunger* is a violent fantasy of sex and immortality; *Earth* is a parable about being different.

(UC Theatre) Episodes 4, 5, and 6 of Fassbinder's Berlin Alexanderplatz. Franz becomes emotionally attached to his male partner in pimping.

him, he's going to be an important star.

Quinn's character, Johnny Rourke, is described in the school records as "potentially dangerous and destructive." Like Tom Cruise in *All the Right Moves* he gets thrown off the football team; but while Cruise was a good boy, the kindest you can call Johnny is fucked up.

A whirling camera — director James Foley's most creative touch — heightens the mating dance Johnny and Tracey do to Romeo Vold's "Never Say Never" ("I might like you better if we slept together.").

Not knowing what he wants to do with his life, Johnny is offended when Tracey hesitates before chucking everything to share his uncertain future. I know the romantic solution would be to tell her to go for it, and it made me feel very old when I could not think of a single reason why she should.

I don't like movies that make me feel old.

(Coliseum)

S. Warren

Reckless

New Kid on the Dean's List

Tearoom sex between a man and a woman? It happens in *Reckless*, yet another teenage drama of escape from Steeltown, U.S.A. There's also boiler room sex — which gets pretty steamy — following swimming pool foreplay.

I guess it was Freud or somebody who said that danger enhances sex. Now someone's set that theory to music and made a movie of it.

Daryl Hannah plays Tracey, high school senior and head cheerleader, who is tired of being "perfect." I've never had an abortion. I've never even had the measles. "What she has is a boring middle class family, a boring quarterback boyfriend (Adam Baldwin) and a boring future."

The excitement she seeks takes the form of Aidan Quinn, the latest selection from the New James Dean of the Month Club. He's not quite handsome despite blue eyes; but he's sexy and, if he's got more than this one role in

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SPORTS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Paul Cavalluzzi: Swimmer

PAUL TREFZGER

Paul Cavalluzzi was surprised when I approached him in the locker room of the Central YMCA. "I never considered myself a jock, but I guess I am," he ventured when I asked if there was anything he did to keep fit other than his routine at the "Y." A special diet? "Yeah. I eat nothing but junk food." Not really true, but not too far wrong. He said his "downfall" was Haagen Daz ice cream and Pepperridge Farm Brussels cookies. "Actually, I can eat everything. I don't avoid a thing. I've been the same weight (155 to 160) for ten years. I don't like to cook. I like to eat out. And eating out, the food's richer... and I like the socializing." His breakfast isn't exactly out of a nutrition guide, either. Orange juice, a cup of coffee and then he's "out of the house and straight to the gym."

So how does he do it? "Swimming does it." Every day of the

Paul was born June 16, 1956 in New York City. He has fond memories, from age five or so, of his father taking him and his sister skiing in Vermont. There are some not so pleasant memories of the television being on for hours of football and baseball — not so pleasant because Paul is definitely a participant. He began swimming while attending a parochial elementary school, and was upset when his family moved to Staten Island, where the high school had no swim team. But after graduation while in the Army he had his chance to get back into the water. There were pools where he was stationed in San Antonio, Texas and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania during 1974 and 1975. He also played tennis, and more than he swam, as there were day and night tennis courts adjacent to his barracks.

March 20, 1983 was the day he came from New York to San



Paul Cavalluzzi (Photo: Rink)

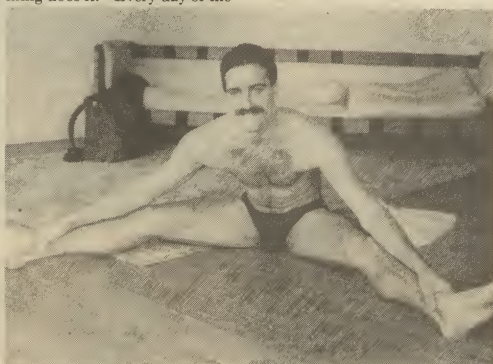
and water. No drugs. I meet people all over; at the gym, through other people. I'm more discriminating now (since AIDS) but I'm older too, almost 27. I'm always horny, but I'm choosy."

He once was a member of the YMCA's Masters Swim Club but lost interest because he isn't basically competitive. "I swim for myself." Lately he's added tennis and he has a pair of skis he plans to use. But no weightlifting. "It seems like work. I walk less than I did in New York. I miss that."

Paul shares a light, spacious apartment and its view with a friend and a cat named Oscar in Diamond Heights. He plans to add an Amazon — an exotic bird — to the household soon; there's a cage waiting.

As for the future, "School is a high priority. I might increase my swimming." Paul wanted it known that "There are days when I get to the gym and I just feel like just walking past." And "sometimes I just stand next to the pool and stare into the water. There is no easy way to stay fit. If someone thinks there is, that's bullshit. A lot of people actually work harder at staying unfit!"

Is keeping fit more than exercise for you? Fitness Eighties will be a regular feature of the Bay Area Reporter Sports Section. If you'd like to share your regimen, diet and the positive effects fitness has had on your life, write to columnist Paul Trefzger in care of this paper with some information about yourself.



There isn't a swimming pool anywhere near Paul Cavalluzzi as he demonstrates the pre-swimming stretches which keep him in shape. (Photo: Rink)

week starting at 9 AM, Paul does his stretches (leg backs, leg raises) for about ten minutes and then it's into the pool where he "starts out slow," taking ten laps to warm up. He swims a mile (72 laps), which takes him two hours. The farthest he's gone has been three miles. "Swimming comes very natural, and gives me a swimmer's high. If I didn't get this feeling I wouldn't swim. That's what motivates me. I get it after I swim a mile. Then sometimes I feel like I could go on forever. That's what happens on a good day." He finishes feeling "loose" and hits the steam room for about fifteen minutes, concluding his workout "totally relaxed."

Francisco. As far as "coming out," Paul said, "Actually, I can't remember when I ever wasn't... In my teens I wanted to fuck the world." But on this specific location, "I've always liked San Francisco. Don't ask me to compare the two cities. It's like apples and oranges. I had friends here I first stayed with. In two weeks I had a job with DHL Courier Service." He loves it. In New York he was assistant manager of Bloomingdale's beauty salon.

Art, particularly sketching in charcoal and abstract sculpturing are favorite pastimes. He likes dinner dates and going to movies. "I don't go to bars. I don't like them. I don't drink, except for an occasional scotch

S.F. TRACK & FIELD

National Track Fest News

The San Francisco Track & Field Club will present the 1984 San Francisco Track & Field Festival, Labor Day weekend, at McAttee High School.

Athletes from across the United States will be invited to participate in the largest Gay track & field event since Gay Games I in 1982. The meet, to be held Saturday and Sunday, September 1 and 2, will be sanctioned by The Athletics Congress (TAC), the governing body of U.S. amateur track & field athletics.

Meet director Bernard Tur-

ner, who successfully staged the track & field competition for Gay Games I, said the meet is being set up in response to those athletes who participated in Gay Games I and wanted to compete in additional meets before the next Gay Games in 1986.

"We've also had calls from athletes who missed out on the first Gay Games and want to get in some competitive meets before the '86 Games," commented Turner.

Competition will be run in age groups, with separate races for both men and women. In addition, Turner and meet co-director Mark Molina hope to have some special relay events lined up and entertainment by

(Continued on next page)

Sports Clubs

SF Track and Field Club. Saturday, February 11: Practice at McAttee High School at 9:30 AM. The All-Comers Track Meet, UC Berkeley. Starts 11 AM, Sunday, February 12: Practice at SF State U. at 11 AM.

Frontrunners. Sunday, February 12: Embarcadero Run. Up to 5 miles. Meet at Villancourt fountain behind Hyatt Regency Hotel at the foot of Market Street, 10 AM.

Saturday Fun Runs meet at 10 AM at Stow Lake Boat House, Golden Gate Park. Saturday Long Runs meet at 9 AM. Info: Steve, 221-6912.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. Sunday, February 12: San Mateo /Crystal Springs/Foster City, brisk pace with few stops, moderate hills, 35 miles. Bring lunch. Meets at 10 AM, Fashion Island Mall, Bullock's parking lot (Mariner Island exit of Highway 92, east of 101). Weather permitting. Contact Dave, 573-6188.

Decide and Rides meet each Saturday at 1 PM and Sunday at 10 AM at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park.

SF Hiking Club. Saturday February 11: The Bay Model and the Wildflowers of Tennessee Valley: First to Sausalito for the always fascinating tour through the US Corps of Engineers working model of San Francisco Bay and the Delta. On to Tennessee Valley, where we will join Naturalist Christensen of the National Park Service in search of early blooming spring wildflowers.

SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

COMMUNITY BOWLING LEAGUES

TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS
(The League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE

(Week 8 of 24 - as of 12/11/83)

1. Number 5	19	13
2. Number 4	18	14
3. All Stars	16	16
4. Battery Point	16	16
5. 501's	14½	17½
6. Fish and Dicks	12½	19½

High Scratch Game

Bob Fritz	234
Larry Fuller	225
Whirl Gray	211
Mary Garrette	211
Ray Padua	209

High Scratch Series

Bob Fritz	607
Larry Fuller	548
Richard Harry	546
Mary Garrette	545
Ray Padua	543

MONDAY

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 12 of 28 - as of 1/23/84)

1. Porkey's	34	14
2. Harlepins	31½	16½
3. Dynasty	31	17
4. Number 16	29	19
5. 22nd Street Gang	28½	19½
6. Rawhide Rawkettes	28	20
7. Bad Boys	27	21
8. Number 14	26½	21½
9. Old Rick's Gold Room	26	22
10. Deluxe	25	23

11. Ranrod	25	23
12. Gay Sports	25	23
13. Play With It, Ltd.	24½	23½
14. The Raw Hides	24½	23½
15. Vagabond Tramps	23	25
16. Sounds Incredible	23	25
17. Knotters	20	28
18. The Obelisk-Crystal Ball	20	28
19. Village Sluts	20	28
20. Lucky Strikes	17	31
21. Phoenix Phirebirds	17	31
22. Phoenix Phantoms	16½	31½
23. Fever	16	32
24. Upton Downes	12	36

High Scratch Game

Clarence Nora	266
Jim Barnes	244
Richard Gorecki	237
J. D. Killian	232

High Scratch Series

Jim Barnes	661
Benjie Castillo	638
Randy Peterson	625
Richard Gorecki	608

TUESDAY

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 20 of 34 - as of 1/24/84)

1. Doris Daze	11	1
2. The Extremes	10	2
3. Ethel	9	3
4. Ezy Pick-Ups (1st)	8	4

5. Half and Half - Cream of C	8	4
6. Ruthless	7	5
7. Late Night Rollers	6	6
8. The JR. Debs	6	6
9. The Clean Team	6	6
10. One Plus Four	5	7
11. The 5 Pickups	5	7
12. Deadwood	5	7
13. Quick and Easy	5	7
14. The Misfits	4	8
15. Pinheads	3	9
16. Charlie's Angels	3	9
17. R and P	3	9
18. Universal MD All-Stars	3	9

High Scratch Game

M. Geraghty	284
Morgan Chase	247
Keith Kusky	245
Eric Tuff	232
Lillian Johnson	212
Sharron Barrows	212

High Scratch Series

Morgan Chase	626
Pat Hanlon	613
Eric Tuff	596
Keith Kusky	572
Lillian Johnson	549
Jackie Weil	524

WEDNESDAY

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 17 of 30 - as of 1/25/84)

1. Chiquita's Bananas	8	0
2. Stud City	8	0
3. Ballers	7	1
4. Brunswick Beauties	7	1
5. Golden Gate MCC	7	1
6. Image Leather (2nd)	6	2
7. Pin Heads (2nd)	5	3
8. High Gear	4	4
9. Warlocks	4	4
10. Thing	4	4
11. Mike's Ice Cream (1st)	3	5
12. Jugs Liquors	3	5
13. Mirage	2	6
14. GGMCC II	1	7
15. Station Masters	1	7
16. PAFA	1	7
17. Gutter Girls	1	7
18. S.R.A. (2nd)	0	8

High Scratch Game

Randy Tirri	243
D. Franceschi	242
J. Reyes-Smith	239
Jim Barnes	237

High Scratch Series

Jim Barnes	629
M. Wiebracht	593
Bob Johnson	581
Geno Gales	578

THURSDAY

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 19 of 32 - as of 1/26/84)

1. Pendulum III	12	0
2. Pendulum	11	1
3. Chief (3rd)	11	1
4. Vagabond Tramps	11	1
5. Transfer #1	8	4
6. Pilsner Kingpins	7	5
7. Spare Parts	7	5
8. Gold Room	4	8
9. Ball-Busters	4	8
10. Pendulum #1	4	8
11. Perfect Job	4	8
12. Answer (1st)	4	8
13. Twin Peaks #2	4	8
14. Twin Peaks #1	3	9
15. Alleycats	1	11
16. Number 15	0	12

High Scratch Game

Jim Barnes	238
Tom Moore	230
Bob Fritz	226
Pat Conlon	216

High Scratch Series

Jim Barnes	607
Tom Moore	586
Bob Fritz	549
Mike Leber	543

FRIDAY

COMMUNITY LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 22 - as of 1/27/84)

1. Team 06	18½	9½
2. LC & LB's Bees	16	12
3. Team 03	16	12
4. Team 02	14½	13½
5. Team 01	14½	13½
6. Team 08	12½	15½
7. Team 04	11½	16½
8. Team 08	8½	19½

High Scratch Game

Craig Clevenger	204
Mike Bulawit	204

High Scratch Series

Peter Padilla	539
Dan Hughes	529

Bowling scores are compiled by Jerry R. De Young.



Drag Kings. Pat Norman and Jo Daly (at podium) present "Outstanding Sportswomen of the Year" award to Velda Gooden (l.) for bowling, Roxanne Borcich (center) for Slow Pitch, and Ellen Brown for Fast Pitch. (Photo: Rink)

CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

Spring 8-Ball Season Rolling

The San Francisco Pool Association's 12th Season is underway, and although participation is down from last season (one less sponsor, eight fewer teams) it promises to be a very exciting season. For one thing, there will be three interdivisional position rounds, with every team facing its equal in another division. The spread of strength is interesting: The "big guns" are distributed among divisions II, III, and IV, with the #1 player in division I being one Eric Prohaska, who finished in 32nd place last season. The other side of the coin is division II, where teams from Chaps, Febe's, Rainbow, White Swallow, and the Stallion are all playoff material — but there's only room for three!

How does team 8-ball work? Teams are comprised of four to six players with a four-player starting lineup. Each position plays the opposing team's four positions for a total of 16 games per match. At the sign-up meeting, the 36 teams were randomly drawn into four divisions, and the top three in each division will begin an 8-week playoff on May 8 to determine the SFFA's entry in West Coast Challenge IX, set for July 13-15 in San Diego. All but one of these tri-city confrontations (I never tire of reminding) has been won by SFFA teams.

\$10,000 TOURNAMENT IN S.F.

Throughout the season there

are also five tournaments for SFFA members, and this season there's a lucky bonus: Lucky Strike is holding an amateur tournament at the San Franciscan Hotel, and many league players can be expected to take a shot at the \$10,000 pot. First prize will be \$2,500 plus a Brunswick pool table, and the cash prizes go all the way to 32nd place.

TROCADERO PARTY LOSES MONEY

Anticipating another hefty contribution to AIDS research (\$2,500 last January), the league wound up in the hole after all the receipts were added up following the January 14 party at Trocadero Transfer. Although the \$25 ticket was steep, it included a buffet, many chances at door and costume prizes, and a 6-month Trocadero membership valued at \$50. For whatever reason, the event didn't draw nearly the number expected, but those who did attend were entertained by Nicholas, Glover & Wray, The Razers, and Loverde. Rick Mariani's slide show was well-received — a collection of league and pro tournament photos. As a presentation the party rated among the league's best, the only downer being a rather skimpy buffet that vanished in a half-hour. The Board is planning a few fundraisers to dig the league out of the hole.

For League information, telephone J-O-E P-O-O-L.



Officer Sitdown. Pool league elects new President, Vice President: Dennis Hall (r.) is the new SFFA President, replacing Lea Benson; Mike Macri (l.) is the new VP, replacing Barbara Steel. (Photo: gene)



Members of the Image Leathers team of the Wednesday Night Japantown Bowl. (Photo: Rink)

Olympic Battle Over A Word Continues

"You bet we'll appeal," said attorney Mary Dunlap after U.S. District Court Judge John Vukasin, Jr. issued a permanent injunction banning the producers of the Gay Games from using the word "Olympic" in connection with the event. The injunction was issued last week.

The permanent ban was sought by the United States Olympic Committee. The committee obtained a preliminary injunction from U.S. District Court Judge Robert Peckham in 1982, shortly before Gay Games I opened in San Francisco.

Last year the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Peckham's ruling in a 2-1 decision, and the USOC's attorney,

Vaughn Walker, won the permanent injunction on a motion for summary judgment (without a trial).

Although Dunlap argued that "the case is replete with triable and material issues," particularly as to "discrimination against homosexuals," Vukasin disagreed.

He based his ruling primarily on the Amateur Sports Act, passed by Congress in 1978, which he said gives the USOC the exclusive rights to the name and symbol.

The judge interpreted the act to mean that no one else can use the term "Olympic" to promote athletic events unless approval is granted by the USOC. ■

we're building on the Festival atmosphere rather than the pressures related to competition," Molina explained.

For more information regarding the first San Francisco Track & Field Festival, contact Bernard Turner at 1015 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. ■

Rick Thoman

TRACK & FIELD

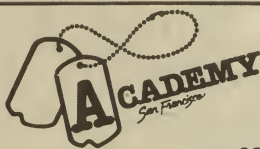
(Continued from previous page)

the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and the Flag Corps.

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RIVETS

Clubhouse, Cows, and Contests

TOM ROGERS

It's not easy for a community as large and diverse as ours to do it, but through the efforts of the Board of Directors of the Tenth Annual Cable Car Awards, each component of this Gay city was spotlighted and otherwise honored in a program lasting just under four hours last Saturday night. Politics, sports, the arts, charities, special events and journalism were among the facets of the community given acknowledgement, and leathermen numbered high among the winners.

While obviously many contributions were made that didn't make it to nomination, and yet others, although listed as nominees, failed to cop the winning title, our city is richer and fuller for those efforts. Those whose efforts won them recognition as having been Outstanding set new standards against which to measure similar efforts this year.

This is all to say, of course, congratulations, everyone — nominees and winners alike.

One out-of-town visitor, Leatherman Richard J. Schmalz of Chicago's Allerton Hotel, was impressed. "We don't have anything like this back home," he enthused. When I suggested that the International Mr. Leather Contest was no shabby affair, he pointed out that he meant that no single event was held there to give recognition to all components of the Gay community. (Oh!).

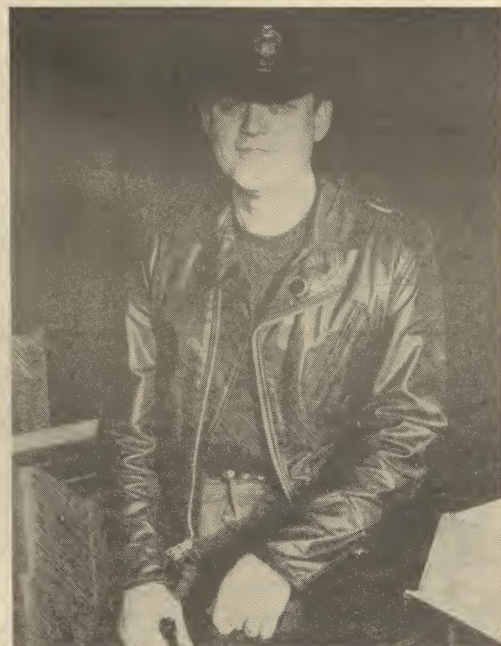
Aside from political potentes like Mayor Dianne Feinstein, State Senator Milton Marks, and several of the SF Board of Supervisors, there was one guest whose presence became more valuable as the evening progressed, Allan Carr, producer of Broadway's popular La Cage aux Folles, appeared to announce an AIDS benefit performance of the show, and became so enthusiastic he offered up \$10,000 to underwrite the 11th Annual Cable Car Awards next year.

★ ★ ★

CLUB WATCH

Awards shows abounded last week, with the Warlocks MC preceding the Cable Car Awards by several days. During an open meeting on the SF Eagle patio, trophies and plaques were presented to several winners in a number of categories. Their Rider of the Year award went to Warlock president Frank Rauch, and a Driver of the Year Award went to Barbary Coaster's vice president Larry Kim. The "Driver" award, known as "Klutz of the Year" in previous years, was specifically changed in Kim's honor for his collision with a cow while driving to a run site last year. Besides, I'm let to understand that "Klutz" is not a becoming term to use in reference to a reigning SF Empress, which title Kim holds under the name of Remy Martin.

Immediately following the Warlocks' open meeting, The Golden Gate Troopers took over the patio to lead in the official christening of the patio's club house. Since the SF Eagle is the Troopers' home bar, it was named "Troopers Hall of Northern California." Bottles of champagne in the hands of GGT members were burst off the side of the building, and two bucket brigade cocktails manned by yours truly and visiting Chicagoan Chuck Kiser, (who is the newly appointed National Marketing Director for Club



Leather Rester, Gary relaxes at Chaps. He's also known as Marlana, in which persona he intends to run for Empress next year. (Photo: Rink)

Scene Magazine), combined to make the name official. GGT President John Clifton and the rest of the Troopers offered the patio crowd cake and champagne, and everyone celebrated.

★ ★ ★

Somewhat later in the evening, Warlock David Holmes became involved in an ugly incident that cost him his new AspenCade Honda. According to Rauch (the only Warlock I could reach before my deadline), Holmes witnessed a motorist hit a pedestrian outside FeBe's, then drive away. Holmes gave chase to get the license plate number of the culprit, but was cut off by a city bus. He circled a block and headed down 11th Street, when out of nowhere came the guilty motorist. Said motorist swerved into Holmes' lane with an apparent willingness to wipe out Holmes in a head-on collision. Holmes attempted to avoid the car, and witnesses were unfortunately treated to a resulting nasty accident.

But get this! Police arriving on the scene let the hit-and-run driver go without even citing him. Holmes did get some infor-

mation, however, like the badge number of one of the unbelievably stupid cops. The hit-and-run victim was hauled away by an ambulance, and word is that Holmes is okay in spite of the fact that his (insured) bike is totaled.

★ ★ ★

The CMC is holding an open meeting tonight (Thursday) beginning at 8:30 PM at the Chez Mollet. Purpose of the meeting, aside from having fun, is to nominate their 1984 officers.

The Constantines MC has slated an open meeting Friday, February 10, on the SF Eagle patio. The gavel should get things started there at 8:30 PM.

Don't forget to take \$8 to Febe's, the Ramrod, the Men's Room or to Barbary Coasters Kim or Rowbottom to exchange

for your ticket to the annual Barbary Coasters Motorcycle Awards slated for 7 PM at California Hall Saturday, February 18. The tab at the door will be higher — \$12 per ticket — so get your ticket now. It promises to be an entertaining evening.

Other club action next weekend will be kicked off by the Constantines Mix 'N' Match at 10 Rodgers Street's M&M Pavilion beginning at 8 PM, Friday, February 17. Five bucks gets you in the door; gets you two free drinks and food as well.

★ ★ ★

As mentioned last week, the Cheaters will be at the Watery Hole from 3 to 6 PM, February 18 to host their Cherry Blossom Festival and during that same time slot, the Warlocks will host their annual Pre-Awards Party at the SF Eagle. The SFGDI's (who won a Cable Car Award with their 1983 production of A Night at Minski's), will host their SFGDI Winners Circle party after the Motorcycle Awards program.

P.S. I identified the SFGDI's

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

new Recording Secretary last week as Ed Blair. Not so. His name is Ed Player. Sorry about that.) One final note is that a Birthday Party is slated to be held for George Duncan, the newly elected Treasurer of the Inter-Club Fund, at the Men's Room, Sunday, February 12.



Crystal and Cash. David Sarathain (l.), chairman of the Interclub Fund and producer of the Tenth Anniversary Presentation of Casualty Capers 1984, receives a check from reigning Grand Duchess Sable (center) and Grand Duke Ken at the Duke and Duchess's recent benefit performance of Crystal Blaze. Proceeds went to the Interclub Fund and to Ward 5B. (Photo: Rink)

PLUGS

The Arena presents its Bare Chest Contest tonight (February 9) beginning at 8 PM to pick the man whose tits will grace the March slot on their 1985 calendar. Marcus will emcee, iron-pumpers will flex and bartenders will serve. By the way, check out their new permanent fixture. Arena Manager Paul Estes tells me that the wide-screen TV is gonna stay.

BIKE WATCH

Practicing steering geometry or instant levitation still requires getting on and riding your motorcycle in all kinds of situations that can be blissful one minute and catastrophic the next. To limit injury to your body, there is actually help in the form of safety equipment. Leather helps by giving the asphalt something other than your flesh to chew up as you slide into your landing place. Heavy boots generally work better than tennis shoes; heavy gloves work well for the same reason the leather does, and helmets are absolutely vital.

I pointed out in an earlier column that the whole idea behind helmets is not just to protect your skull (much less your new hairstyle). Their function is also to limit the impact of your brain against your skull in an accident situation.

Assuming that you need no convincing of the value of helmets, and further assuming

that you are shopping for one, what do you buy? They all look as though they should be able to do the job. What features make one better than another? Does that downy-faced young sales clerk know enough about them to help you pick the best?

Happily, some help has been offered in the January issue of

fits midway between Snell and DOT. The bright orange Safety Helmet Council of America (SHCA) sticker, while not actually constituting a standard, bears mention because it demonstrates the manufacturer's commitment to workmanship accountability and quality control."

The research performed included, as an obvious priority, what Snell and the DOT think of helmets currently on the market. Those ratings, including suggested retail price, are as follows:

SNELL

1. Arai Superlight \$317.95
2. Arai Astro-vent \$157.50
3. Shoei ER-7 \$139.95
4. Bell Star \$174.95
5. Arai Trophy GP \$234.50
6. Shoei Z-100 \$199.50

DOT

1. Shoei S-28S \$ 92.50
2. BMW System \$185.00
3. Kiwi K10 \$ 99.95
4. Bell Roadstar \$109.95
5. Nolan N-33 \$ 99.95

The most likely retailers are Cycle Touring on Fifth or any of the big Japanese dealerships (Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, etc.) or by special order from Touring Gear Unlimited on Seventh Street.

Beginning this month, Tom Rogers' International Leather Scene will appear regularly in Drummer Magazine.

Peace Testament

An artist reception for Dav Fairall will be held at the Stud on February 12 from 8 PM to 10 PM. The artist's Peace Testament will begin its exhibition at that time.

Kramer Chorale Broadcast

The recent concerts by Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale at the Old First Church were taped live and will be broadcast on KUSF (90.3 FM) on Thursday, February 16 at 7:30 PM.

Bi Dance

The Bisexual center (1757 Hayes) invites interested people to celebrate their lives and sexuality at their annual Valentine Dance Saturday, February 11, 9 PM. Members, \$5; nonmembers, \$7; BYOB; info 929-9299.

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To Be Or Not To Be. You may look better without a helmet, but you may be more alive with one. (Photo: Rink)

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The Terrible Trilogy:
Under the Lash
Through the Flood
Out of the Womb

"Drummer" magazine (January) calls Slave and Master Video "lately authentic SM video."

ALVIN AILEY

(Continued from page 24)

Army down the street. That's how we operate in America, and our funding sources know that. Our potential backers think, "If they don't have any money, they'll do it anyway." And we do.

I don't have a particularly hard-nosed board of directors. My fantasies have been reasonably acquiesced to. I'm allowed to fail. I'm allowed to experiment, which I think is a great luxury. I can go to my board and say, "We're having a new ballet by Bill T. Jones," and they say, "Who is Bill T. Jones?" or I tell them, "Elisa Monte is going to make us a new ballet for the girls," and they say, "Well, if you say it's fine, go ahead."

KW: We just saw that piece — Elisa Monte's *Pigs and Fishes* — at the San Francisco Ballet

gala.

Ailey: Oh, did you go to the gala? I understand the break dancers broke it up. It's a real phenomenon — which I hope doesn't get killed by commercialization. There's a big break dance extravaganza going to Europe this summer, and two movies underway now and one by Sidney Poitier, who is trying to steal some of my dancers to be the leads in it.

But back to *Pigs and Fishes*. I admire Michael Smuin for doing that for his girls. I mean, he may not like it; the audience might not like it; but the girls are having a ball!

I've known Michael forever. Michael made a ballet for us way back in the Sixties — he was still in ABT at the time. We've been good friends for a long time. This summer both

our companies were touring in Europe and were all staying in the same hotel in Italy. The girls from the San Francisco Ballet came and saw *Pigs and Fishes*. So I understand they threatened Michael; they wanted to do it. They said, "Well, you got *Troy Games* for the boys, now how about *Pigs and Fishes* for us?" So they're doing it. That's one of the things that running a company is about: stretching people, pushing them into a new way of moving, new ways of thinking. *Pigs and Fishes* was originally done on our company; we're bringing it to Berkeley.

KW: Sounds like quite an eclectic rep you're bringing this time.

Ailey: If you look at the list of choreographers who have worked with us, we are the great American modern dance repertory theatre. Some people have trouble admitting that. Somehow the idea that Blacks are preserving the American modern dance repertory doesn't sit with the establishment so well.

KW: Speaking of things sitting with the establishment, what's the situation with Gay people in the Alvin Ailey company?

Ailey: Well, this is 1984, you know? What possible difference can one's sexual preference make? It has nothing to do with one's creativity or depth of perception.

KW: I think effeminacy in male dancers was the real issue — but you don't see that much anymore.

Ailey: No, you don't. Every now and then we still get hung up on the macho image, projecting the masculine image on the stage and all that. Most of my boys, no matter what their sex-

ual preference — and I'm not sure what they all are, whether they're bi, tri, or whatever — project a masculine image on stage. It doesn't matter. I don't care — nobody cares, really. All the guys today are in their boots, stalking around. But I recently had a couple of boys who were sort of . . . old-fashioned Gay, you know what I mean? And I had to analyze my attitude toward them. I had to look at it, embrace it. And I said, "Fine, boys, lay it on 'em. It's time to come back and say, 'Look, I'm Gay, and I'm proud of it.'" And I had to look in my head and say, "Yes, I'm proud of them, and I want everybody to be

then; no place to dance; no place to study; no subsidy, really. I've seen the whole dance boom come about: the Sixties — the "me" generation — when the National Endowment put a lot of money into touring companies and pushed Falco and Paul Taylor and Murray Louis, all those New York insular companies, out into America's communities. Today we have the new wave choreographers, the new totalists, the post-moderns; we have all that in our repertory as well. We've a very creative country, imitated throughout the world. American dance is so highly respected; you have no idea.

Alvin Ailey: What difference does sexual preference make? What are we categorizing? It's the human being who counts.

Keith White: Thank you.

proud of them." It's all right to be Gay. And I feel no less about the ones who are a little bit effeminate than the ones who are stomping around in their motorcycle boots.

KW: What about the women? Any Lesbians in the company?

Ailey: Uh-huh. At least, I've heard that there are women dancers in the company who are also fond of other women. What difference does it make? It's so stupid. What are we categorizing? Why can't we just be human beings? Who cares? It's the human being who counts.

KW: Thank you.

Ailey: There's a lot going now in the dance world. I've seen everything evolve since 1958 when I started the company and there was nothing happening

Funding is our main problem. Every fantasy involves a deficit. But you develop a philosophy, and you go right on. It's a hard world; it's something you really have to want to do, otherwise you just can't keep doing it. But when the people grow — the people you've been involved with for five or ten years — like Judith Jamison, who went on to Broadway, and Donna Wood who now dashes back and forth to Vienna and Copenhagen guesting. You see growth in the people. And for me, that's what it's really all about.

K. White

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre performs different programs nightly through Sunday, February 12, at Zellerbach Auditorium. Info and tickets: 642-9988 or BASS.

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Google's has started collecting \$1 donations for tickets for the softball team. With each ticket you get a chance on winning an air trip for two to Puerto Vallarta, including hotel for one week or you can take the cash equivalent of \$750. Now that isn't bad, is it? . . . Tickets are available from team members, at Google's and/or Paul Ruehl at Gilmore's. Yes, Paul is again playing on a team and has promised to make all the games; right, Cha Cha? Incidentally, Paul and George celebrate their 8th year together on Sunday, February 12 . . . seems like a lot longer; doesn't it, George? Especially when Paul told you he was only 26 years old when you met him at the Trapp.

On Tuesday, Valentine's Day, we will be celebrating at Google's with a *Beste Verjaardag* party for Ben Schlyper . . . this is from 7 'til 9 PM, and Danny Montoya is taking care of everything, including Ben later in the evening. So bring your Valentine down and join in the fun. Then on Sunday 19 from 3 'til 5 PM John (Virginia) Kehr is celebrating his birthday and playing with a full deck . . . in other words, 52 years old . . . don't miss this event, Daddy Joe Roland.

Remember, the event of the season is on Thursday, February 16, at the Gangway . . . it is Daddy Joe Roland's Annual Lithuanian Party . . . lots of fun and ethnic foods. It's from 6 AM 'til 2 AM and they will have a tired staff when that day is over. You all did a nice job of decorating and getting things together . . . your staff is great, Joe and Roger.

When you happen to take a trip to Oakland — which is fun,



Sweetlips Asks, "Guess Who?"

by the way — stop in at Kelley's and say hello to Cecil, the genial owner, and tell him that The Lips sent you in for a drink. I think you will enjoy the hospitality of this bar.

Remember to keep Tuesday, February 21, open for the Tavern Guild meeting at Kimo's . . . you know that Kimo will try to outdo all other meetings, and besides, they have it upstairs in the showroom for privacy.

Do you know who the beauty is in the picture that is on this page? A hint is that he was much younger when this was taken and it wasn't done at Savages.

It is true that Paul (Luscious Lorelei) Bentley is opening another Video Mart store in Daly City. You sure are doing great in this field, Paul.

Well, I have to make a change again . . . just like H.L. Perry's Chinese Checkers Column about thirty years ago . . . Freddie Fudpucker, aka Fred Skau, is now on the plank Sunday through Tuesday evenings at the very popular Gilmore's on Hyde

DICK WALTERS

and California; so drop in and have a drink with this personable guy . . . yes, it is true that Mike Dooley is now living ALONE for the first time in centuries, or is Doris moving back to the city, Mike?

. . . and Lyrics by Johnny Mercer is a great show with so many, many of his catchy tunes that takes one back many, many years . . . Jamie Thomas is just great, so don't miss it at the 1177 Club on California Street . . . no drink minimum.

I don't know how long it has been since you have been to the Giraffe on Polk Street, but you should drop in NOW for a cocktail or two . . . all new decor and new great music . . . especially the upbeat show tunes that they are now playing . . . Carl and Larry, you have done a truly fantastic job and if it is any indication it seems as if the Polk Street area is going to become the most popular one in the city again . . . love all of your mirrors and the carpeting.

The Fickle Fox is having a big Valentine's Party on Tuesday the 14th from 6 PM on with a spectacular buffet . . . yes, you will see the great Mike Tetrazini there that evening.

Sutter's Mill and the Mint are also having Valentine surprises . . . lunches at the Mill and dinners at the Mint . . . check with them for the spectacular menus that they have for lovers, ex-lovers, or lovers to be . . . they will surprise you with the menu. Hi, Craig Daley.

Happy birthday — today — Vera of the Gold Room . . . only 53 . . . I bet you looked it when you were . . . How are your new "shorts" from Russ and Frankie?

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of pneumocystis carinii pneu-
monia just before midnight on



Goodbye Kiss. John Ponyman was very active in local theatre. He created the mysterious Leatherman character in the premiere of C. D. Arnold's *Delivery*, and was prevented by a foot injury from starring in Arnold's *King of the Crystal Palace*. At 544 Natoma he appeared in Cal Yeoman's *Sunsets* among numerous other shows. Most notable, though, was his one-man presentation of the songs he'd composed over many years, a thematic revue of grand love and sincerity called *Sawdust*. The quotation heading this article is from one of John's lyrics. When 544 Natoma closed, John (r.) embraced Peter Hartman, the theatre's director. No one could foresee how final a leavetaking it would be. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Twice A Week

NASHional Anthem: A Play (on words), currently at the 1177 Club, announces a schedule change. NASHional Anthem will perform twice a week — Sundays at 4 and 8 PM. The tickets will remain \$9 and dinner specials will be available in conjunction with Mama's Restaurant for \$25. Reservations: 776-2101. ■

Lesbians of Color

The Lesbians of Color group is holding an open meeting on Saturday, February 18, to work on our Statement of Purpose and to discuss future activities. The group will meet in San Francisco. For exact location and time, call either Gloria or Alicia at 548-8283. For Lesbians of Color only. ■

Saturday, February 4, 1984. He was hospitalized on Ward 5B of San Francisco General Hospital on Friday, January 13, and diagnosed with this manifestation of AIDS on January 17. John was initially treated with the drug Pentamidine, but deterioration of his respiratory condition continued; he was moved to intensive care unit 5R and placed on a mechanical ventilator on January 29. Two more antibiotics were tried; both failed. Medically John passed the point of any hope for recovery during the late afternoon of February 4. He had exceeded the ventilator's capacity to keep him alive, and had drifted from consciousness. The medical staff of the hospital determined that any further effort to prolong his life could only cause suffering. John was heavily sedated and disconnected from the ventilator. He left quickly and quietly, with no pain.

Before John moved to intensive care, virtually all of his energy was devoted to breathing. The use of the ventilator took that burden from him and allowed him a few days of quality time to be with the people closest to him. His determination and unswerving dedication to overcoming his disease in full knowledge of the near hopelessness of his condition were a source of awe and inspiration to me, and, I believe, also to all those dedicated to being there, loving him, and physically caring for him. We all went one hundred percent to ensure that his final days were filled with love.

A memorial will be held at the Unitarian Chapel, Franklin at Geary, from 2 to 4 PM on Saturday, February 11.

Contributions may be sent to the Patient Fund, Ward 5B, San Francisco General Hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110, Attention: Cliff Morrison.

Joy in loving him, sorrow in his passing —

Devotions to all of you,
John Jones
14 Isis #4
San Francisco, CA 94103
February 6, 1984

People to whom you may wish to write.

Parents: Arthur and Mary Kuhner, 7476 State Route 43, Kent, Ohio 44240

Sister: Susan Kuhner, 3204 Bonnie Hill Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90068

A Close Companion in Life: Michael Mullins, 1850 North Whitley Avenue #706, Hollywood, CA 90028 ■

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Gay Help for Latin America

LAGAI (Lesbians and Gays Against US Intervention in Latin America) presents Alliances: Lesbians and Gay Men in Solidarity, an evening of speakers, music and theatre on Saturday, February 11, at 7:30 PM in the Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission Street.

Speakers for the event include Lucrecia Bermudez, Peruvian activist speaking on Lesbians and Gays in the context of the Peruvian struggle; Bill Krauss, assistant to Representative Sala Burton, recently returned from a successful mission to El Salvador to free political prisoner Professor Calderon; Guillermo Ballesteros, Columbian Gay activist; Tita Caldwell, member of the Women's Committee on Central America and Guatemalan News and Information Bureau, who recently visited Nicaragua; Merri Besden, in Grenada three weeks

before the US invasion; and Federico Jimenez, representative of the National Committee to free Puerto Rican prisoners of war.

The event is bi-lingual, sign interpreted for the deaf, wheelchair accessible and free childcare is provided. Admission is \$3-6. For more information call 552-1492. ■

FOG Activities

The Fraternal Order of Gays (FOG), a social alternative, will attend the Trocadero Ballet on Friday, February 17, to reserve orchestra seats (\$17) with the group, call 566-6227.

On Sunday, February 5 at 8 AM, the FOG has reserved two hours to view the Vatican Collection at the DeYoung before the museum opens to the public. At \$11 it's slightly more expensive than regular admission, but FOG members will have the entire show to themselves! Call 566-6227. ■

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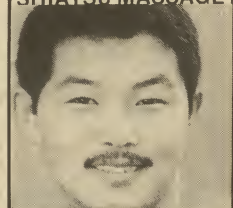
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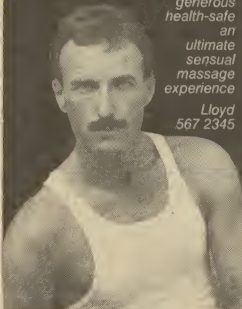
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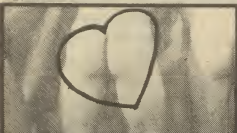
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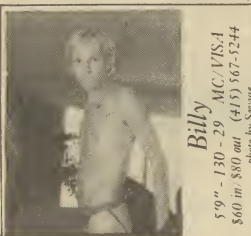
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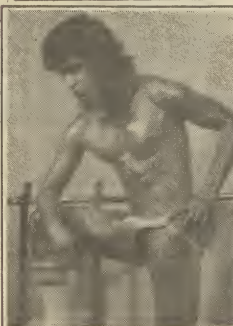
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